

OUR COUNTRY—INDIA

BOOK I

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SOCIAL STUDIES

OUR COUNTRY—INDIA

BOOK ONE



NATIONAL COUNCIL OF EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH AND TRAINING

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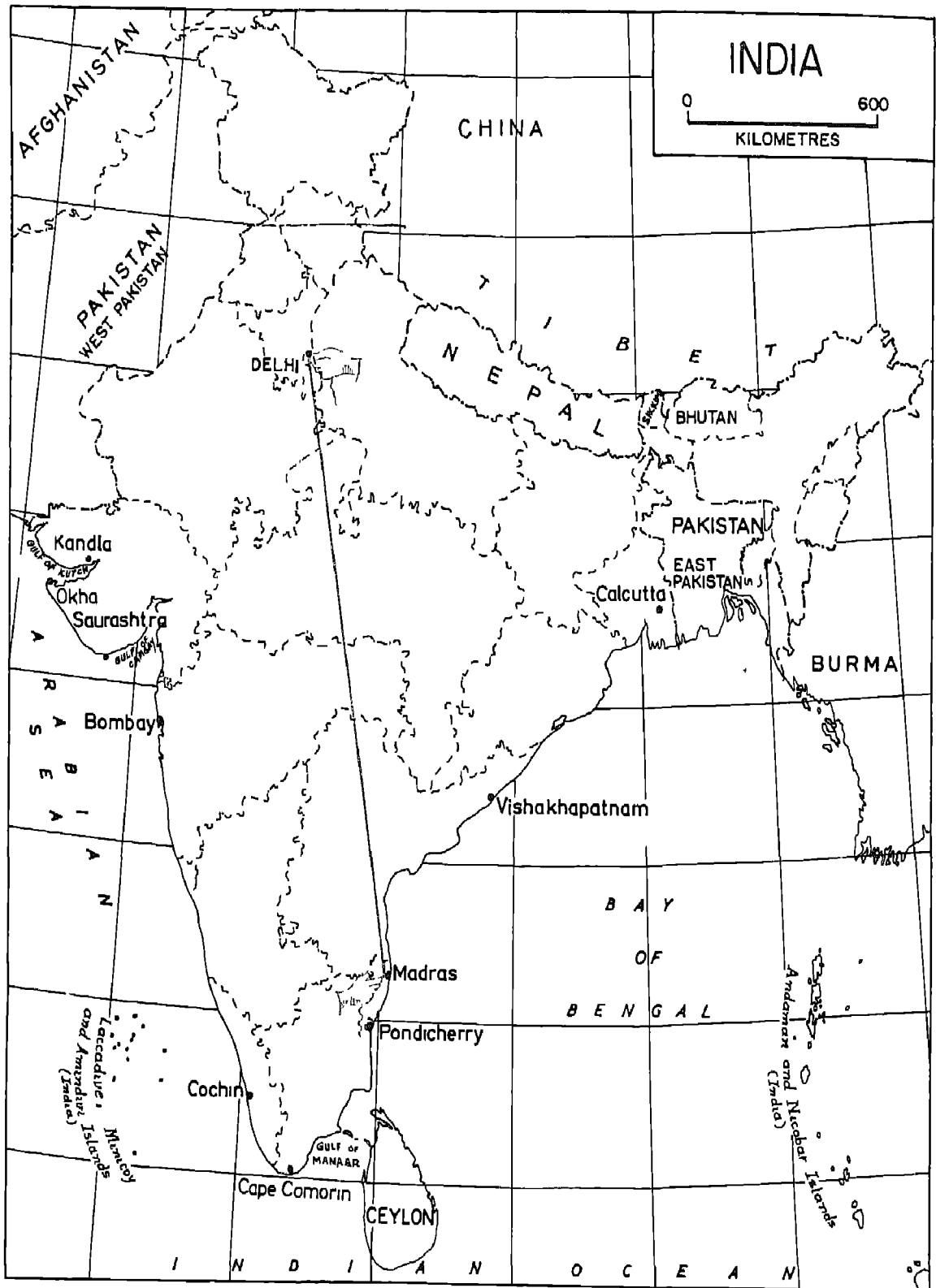
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Learn These Things

LOOK CAREFULLY at the map on the opposite page. This is a map of our country. It shows India and parts of her neighbouring countries. This kind of a line----- on the map shows where our country ends and other countries begin. This is called the International boundary or a boundary between countries. You can now find the International boundary on the map.

Some part of the boundary of India is shown on the map with an unbroken line like this_____. This is called the coast line. The blue portion beyond the coast line is the sea. A sea is a large body of salt water. Very big and deep seas are called oceans. Oceans and seas are always shown in blue on coloured maps. You can easily read from the map the names of the seas and the ocean that lie along the coast line of India.

India has several states. The boundaries of different states of India are shown by a dotted line (-----).

Do you ever wonder how to tell north, south, east and west on the map? The best way to learn it is by using a wall map. Get a big map of India. Hang it on the wall and stand in front of it. The top of the map indicates north and the bottom south. East is to your right and west is to your left. Can you now tell directions on a map? Try to find out on the map in which directions the seas, and our neighbouring countries lie.

India is a very big country. It is difficult to draw a map of its actual size on paper. We use maps much smaller in size than the place or country they picture. That is why short distances on maps stand for much longer distances on the earth. You will also see that all good maps have a scale line. The scale line helps to measure distances on the map. Let us learn to use the scale line for measuring the distance between Delhi and Madras.

Take a string, or a piece of paper. Place its one end on the dot that stands for Delhi. Stretch the string up to the dot that stands for Madras. Hold the two ends of the string tightly between your fingers and cut the string to exact length between the two dots.

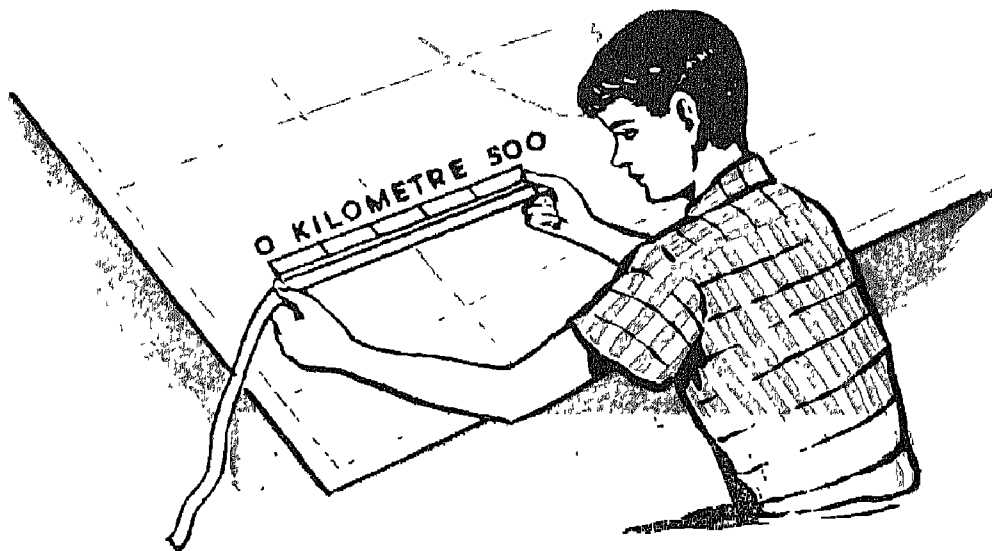


FIGURE 1

Now place one end of the string on the zero point of the scale and measure the distance up to the other point of the scale (Figure 1). If the string is longer than one measure of the scale, go on measuring as many times as is needed to measure the full length of the string (Figure 2). Add the distances thus mea-

sured and you will get the straight distance between Delhi and Madras.

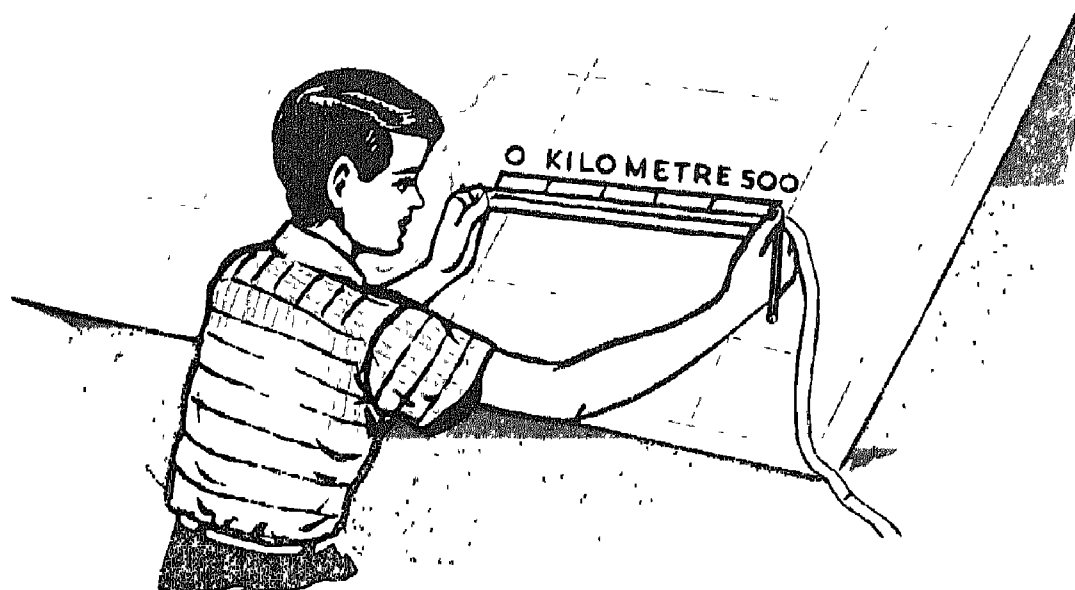


FIGURE 2

In the same way you can find out the distance between any two places on the map.

You can see that India has a long sea coast. At places the coast is broken and irregular and the sea water is deep. A broken coast and deep sea help to make good harbours. A harbour is a place near the coast where ships can anchor safely. The place near the harbour where passengers board ships and cargo is loaded and unloaded, is known as a port. It is man-made. India has a number of harbours and ports along its sea coast. You can read their names on the map.

At places, the sea enters the land through a narrow opening called a gulf. See gulf of Cambay and gulf of Kutch on the map. When the opening of a gulf is very wide we call it a bay (Figure 3). See the Bay of Bengal on the map.

Sometimes a huge piece of land extends into the sea and is surrounded by sea on three sides (Figure 3). It is called a peninsula. The narrow pointed part of the land jutting into the sea

is known as a cape (Figure 3). If a piece of land is surrounded by water on all sides, it is called an island (Figure 3). Can you now find Cape Comorin, the peninsula of Saurashtra, Andaman and Nicobar Islands on the map?

Look at Figure 4 on page 6a. The level of the sea water is lower than that of any part of the land. Therefore, we always measure the height of the land from the sea level, which is taken as zero. The height of a place means its 'height from the sea level'. Do you know that Delhi is at a height of about 229 metres from the sea level?

In Figure 4 you see that a part of land is not much higher than the sea. Such flat lands not very much higher than the sea level are known as plains. A plateau is higher than the plains and has a relatively flat surface. It rises steeply above the plain. Mountains are a group of hills rising quite high above the ground. The mountains which are not very high are called hills. The high points of mountains and hills are known as peaks.

Figure 3 shows a chain of hills. Such a chain of hills is called a range. A mountain may have several ranges. A strip of land between two hill slopes is called a valley. A valley usually has a river or stream flowing through it.

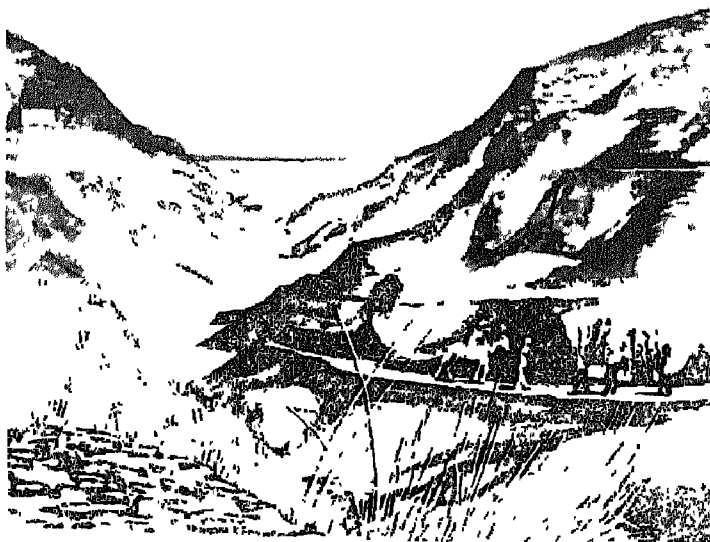
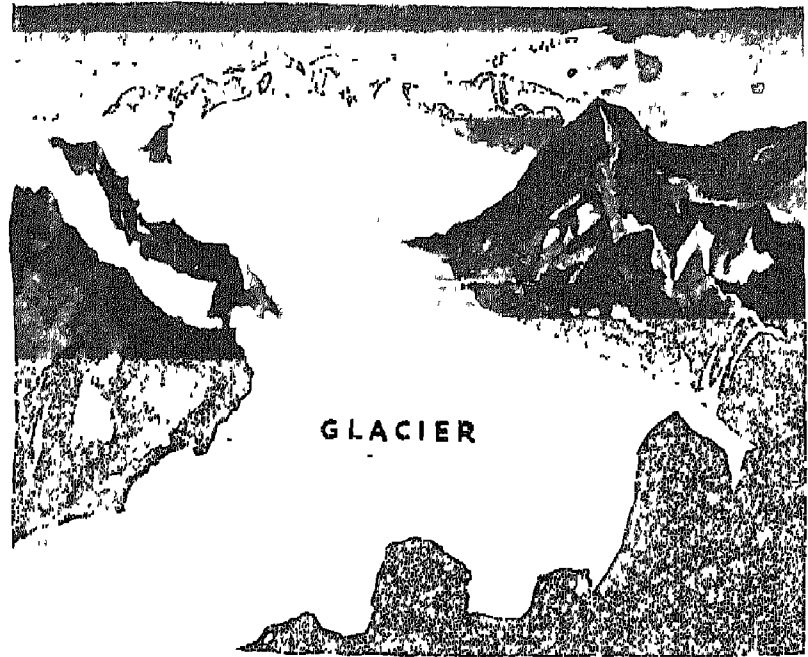


FIGURE 5

FIGURE 6



It is not easy to cross over the high mountains. People generally cross these great heights through narrow passages found in the mountains. These narrow passages are called passes. In Figure 5 you can see some people walking through a pass.

The kind of weather a place has over the years is called its climate, that is, whether it is hot or cold, wet or dry. It is always interesting to know about the climate of a place.

As you read about the various places in this book, you will see that hilly regions have a colder climate than the plains. Snow falls on the high hills. The peaks of very high mountains are generally covered with snow. Very often the snow is packed so tightly together that it becomes a solid mass of ice and begins to slide down the mountains into the valley. We call it a glacier (Figure 6). The glacier is often many miles in length. It is a river of ice and moves very, very slowly. The ice melts and forms streams of water.

The streams run on tumbling over the rocks. When they fall down steep mountain sides they form water falls (Figure 3).

On the way, several small streams join the main stream to

make a river. The small streams are called the tributaries of the river.

At places, there are large low lying areas filled with water. We call them lakes (Figure 3). A lake may have fresh or salt water. Most of the rivers flow down the hills and the plains to join a lake, another river or the sea.

In this book, you will learn many more important and interesting things about the different states and people of India. This lesson will help you to understand the other lessons better. You can always turn to these pages, when you need to do so.

HILL RANGES

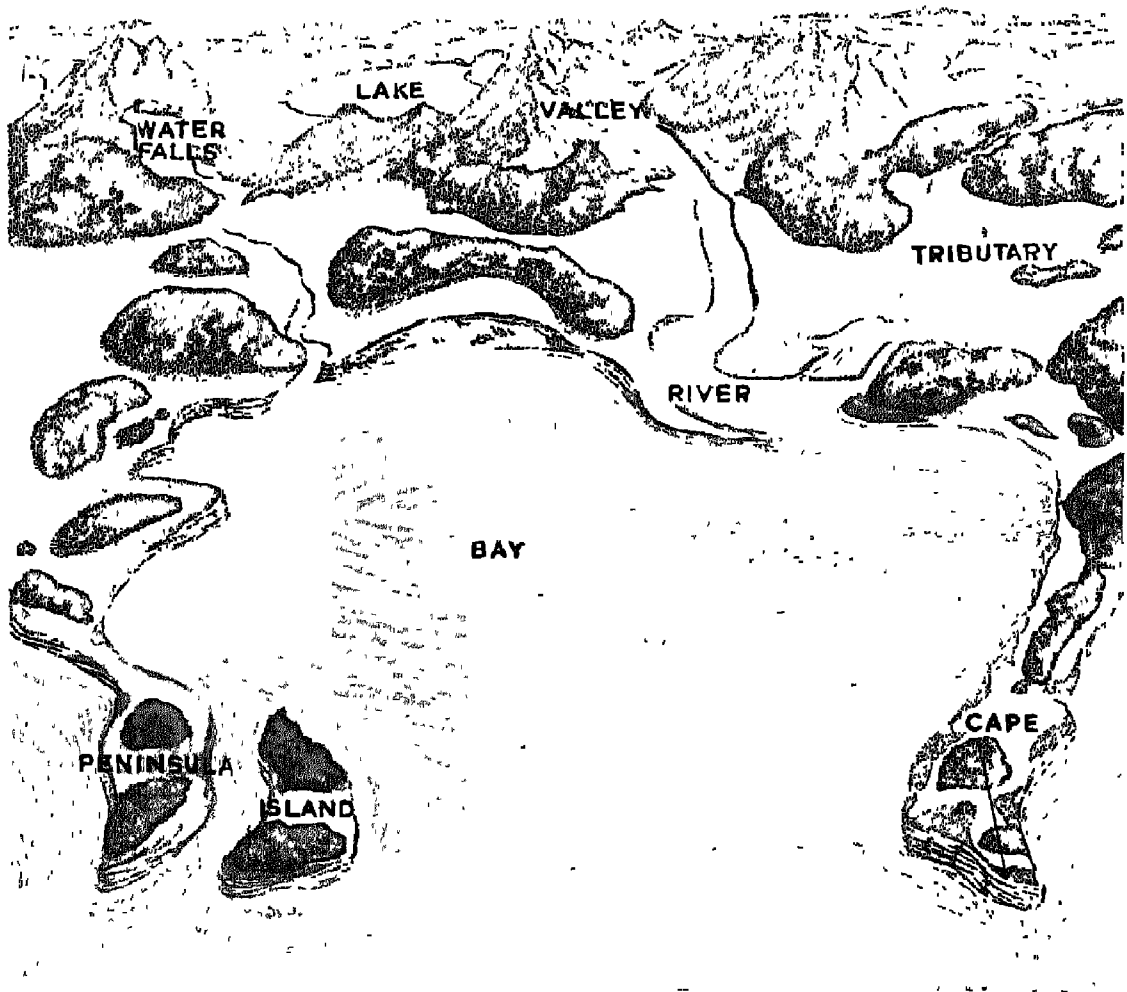


FIGURE 3

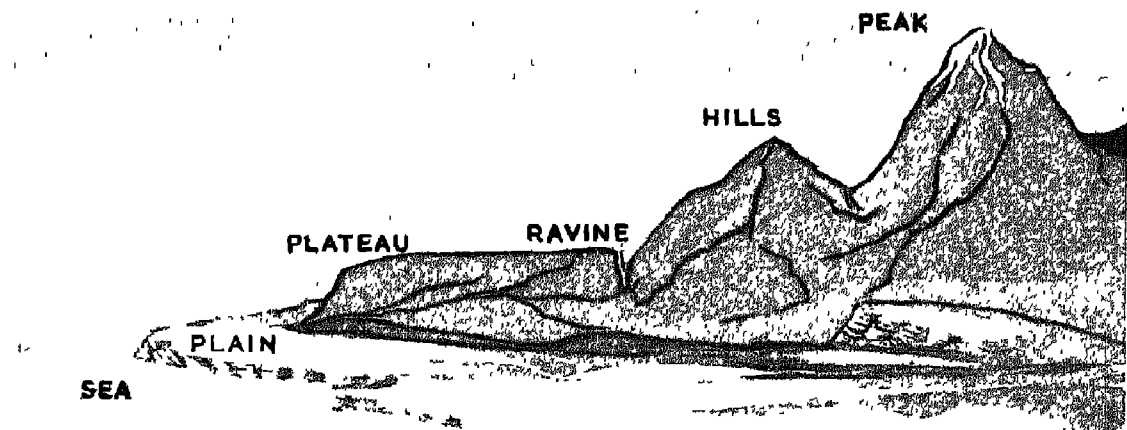
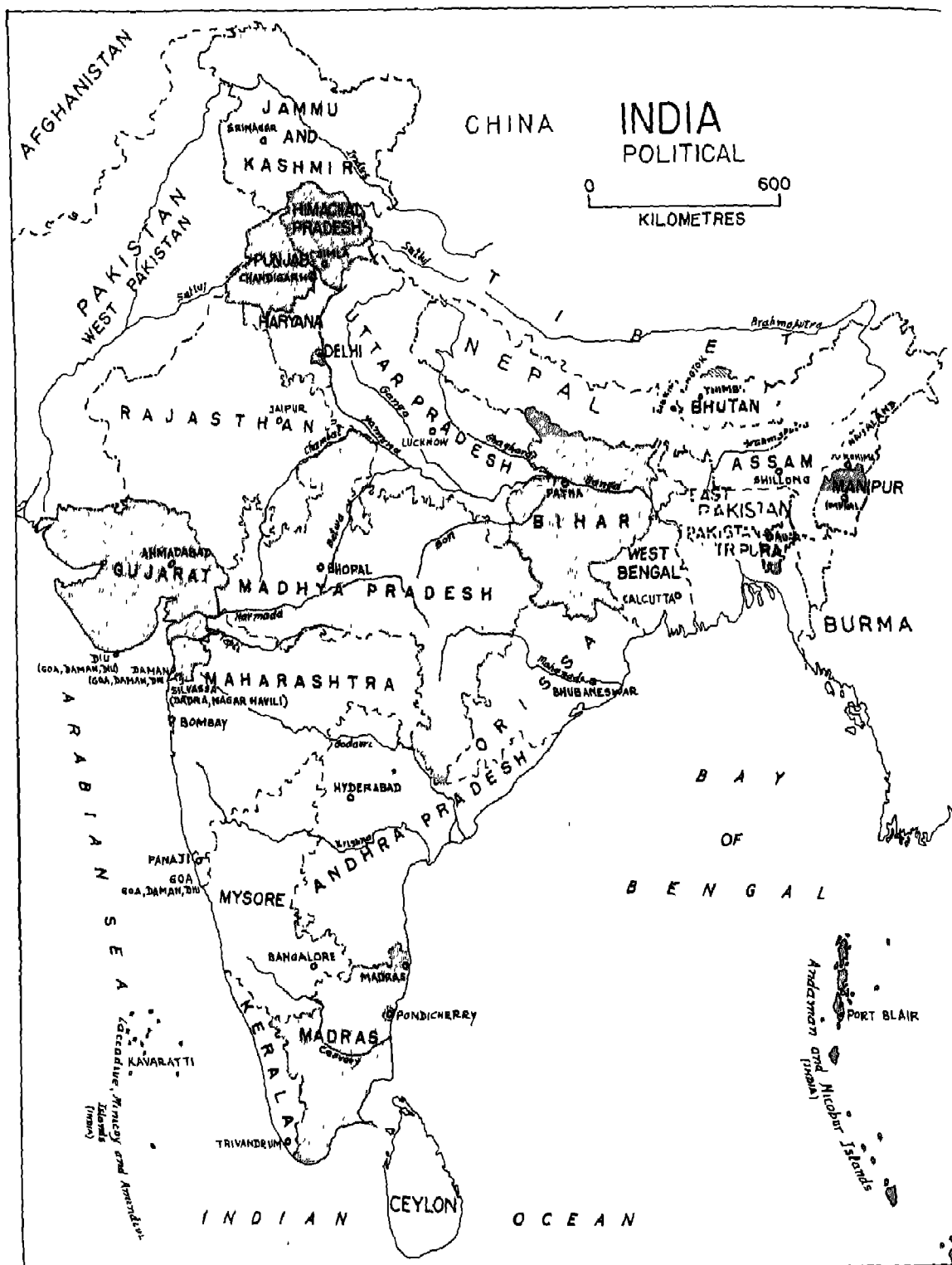


FIGURE 4



Based upon Survey of India map with the permission
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Life of Our People

YOU HAVE already learnt many things about how people live in your neighbourhood and your village or town. You also know many things about the people of your own state. Now you will read how people live in other parts of our country.

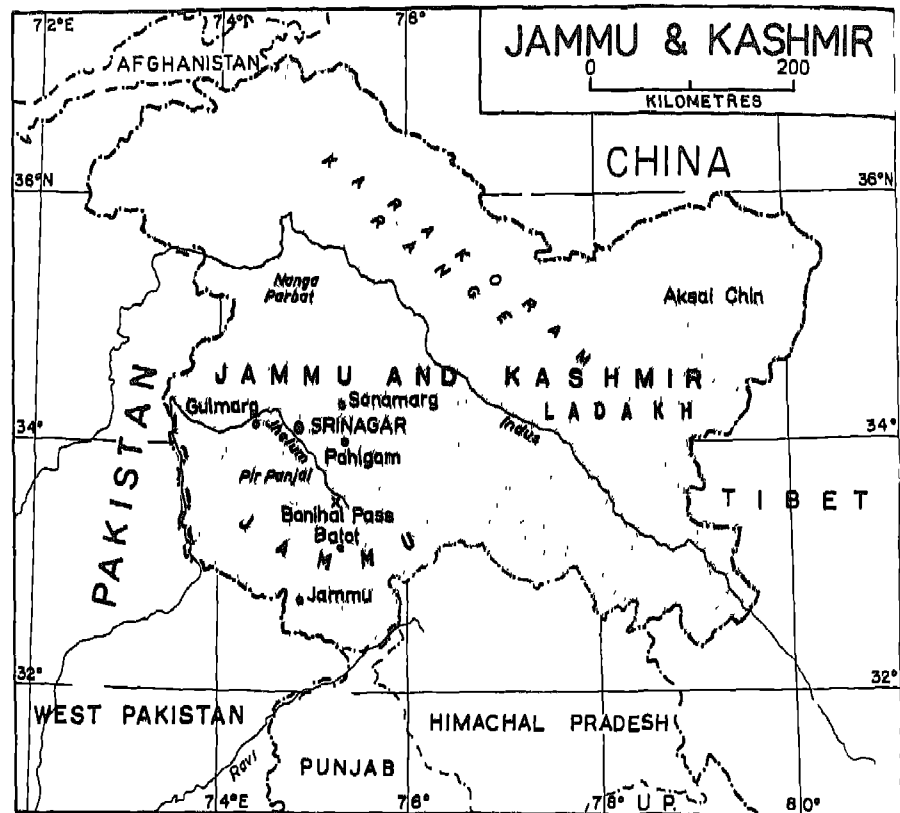
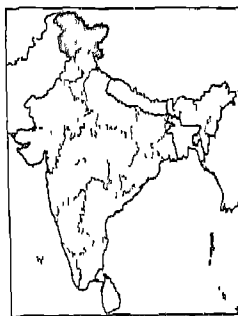
India is a big country. It has several small and big States and Union Territories. All these States and Union Territories together make India.

Look at the map on the opposite page. It shows all the States and Union Territories of our country. It also shows parts of our neighbouring countries. You can read the names of all the states and neighbouring countries of India.

All the States and the Union Territories have their own capitals. Delhi is the capital of the whole country. It is a big city. There are many other big and beautiful cities in our country.

India is a beautiful land. It has many rivers and lakes, hills and mountains, valleys and forests. It has a long sea coast. You will learn interesting things about them. You will also get to know about the minerals we get from the earth, the crops we grow in the fields and the goods we produce in factories.

In this book you will read many things about how people live, eat, dress, work, worship and enjoy themselves in different parts of our country. Their ways of life are different. But they are all Indians.



1. Jammu and Kashmir

LOOK AT the above map. Jammu and Kashmir lies in the north-west of India. It is a border state and is surrounded by other countries on three sides. These countries are Pakistan, Afghanistan and China. Our Union Territory of Himachal Pradesh and the State of Punjab touch its borders in the south.

The whole state lies in the Himalayan region. The beautiful valley of Kashmir is a part of this state. People from all parts of India and the world come in thousands to visit this beautiful valley every year. I am sure you would also like to visit Kashmir. Come, let us take a trip to Kashmir.

Though it is the month of June, do not forget to take your woollens. You perhaps remember that Kashmir lies in the Himalayas.

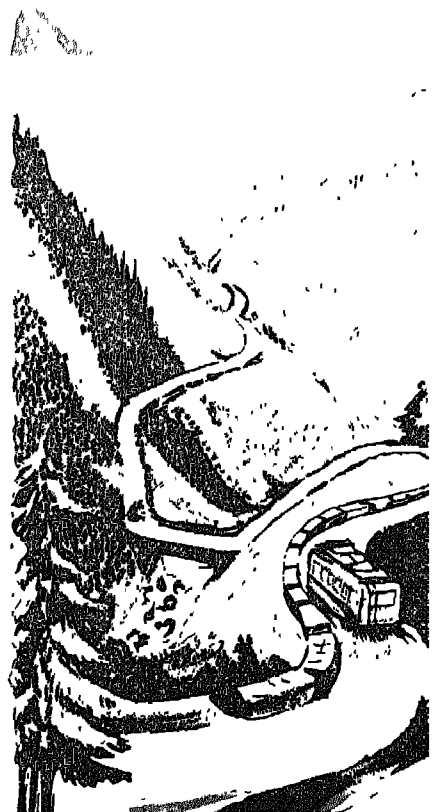
Lo, the journey starts. We go by train up to Pathankot, a town in the Punjab State. From Pathankot we take a bus. Between Pathankot and Jammu we see small hills on the way. Jammu is an old hill city. It is the winter capital of the State of Jammu and Kashmir. Many government offices shift there in winter. Thousands of people from different parts of India go to visit the famous *Vaishnow Devi* temples in Jammu.

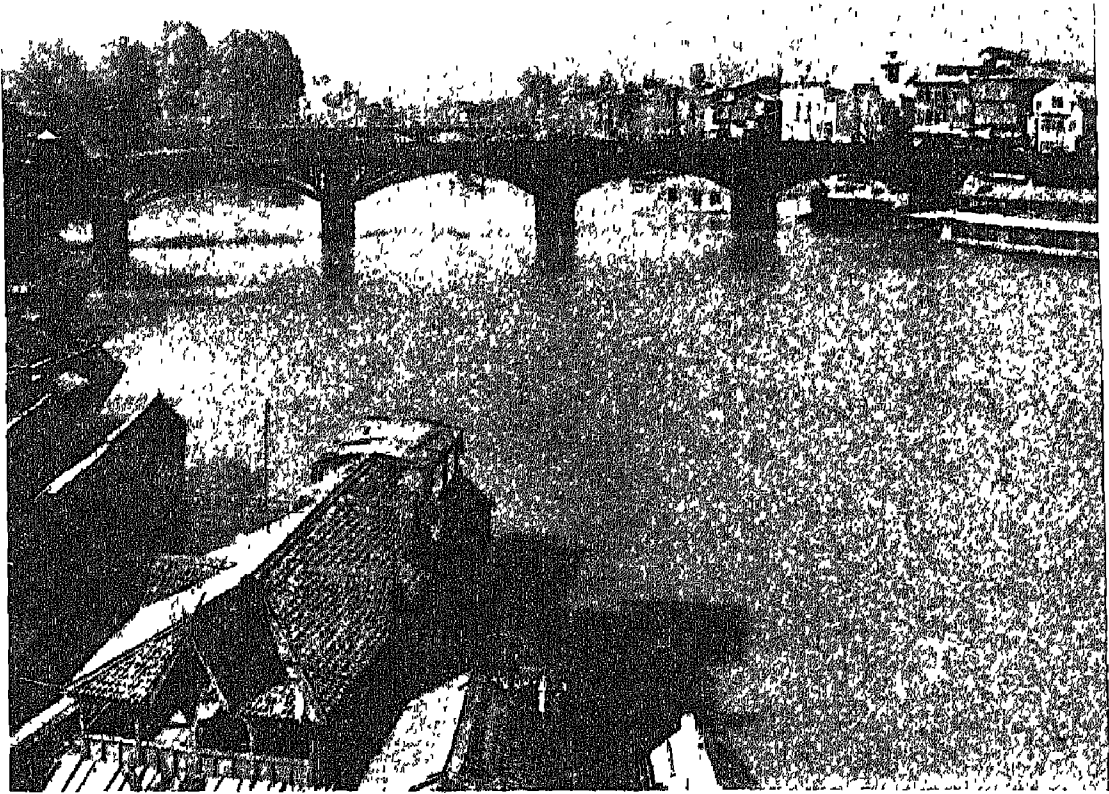
In Jammu area most of the people speak Dogri. Many people serve in the army. Most of the villagers are farmers. The *gujars* who are nomads live on the slopes of the mountains. They move from place to place with their herd of sheep and goats. Most men wear loose trousers, kurta, coat and turban. Their main food is wheat. They also eat rice, pulses, milk and curd.

From Jammu to Srinagar again we go by bus. It is a hill journey and takes one and a half days. The bus goes up and down the winding hill road. Tall trees, mountains, and waterfalls on the way make our journey very pleasant. In about twelve hours we reach Batot. It is a very nice place for a short halt. After Batot our bus starts moving at a great height. The road has become more winding and narrow. On one side there are deep ravines. If our driver were a little careless, we would fall into the ravine.

Oh! our bus has suddenly become slow. It appears that we are nearing Banihal Pass. This pass is at a height of about three thousand metres above the sea level. We

A winding hill road





A bridge across the Jhelum

will cross the Banihal Pass through the Jawahar Tunnel. Through this tunnel we can now go to Kashmir valley all the year round. Before this tunnel was made, we could not go to the valley when the Banihal Pass was covered with snow.

Look, we have crossed the tunnel. Now we see the valley of Kashmir. The rice fields and meadows look like a green velvet sheet. The water of the lakes and the streams shines like silver. The valley is surrounded by snow-capped mountains. On the slopes are orchards of apples, peaches, pears, almonds and walnuts. How beautiful the valley looks!

Our bus is going very fast now. Near Pampur we see the saffron fields. People of Kashmir love saffron flowers. Kashmir saffron is well-known. Now we see beautiful, tall chinar trees on both the sides of the road. It shows we have come near Srinagar.

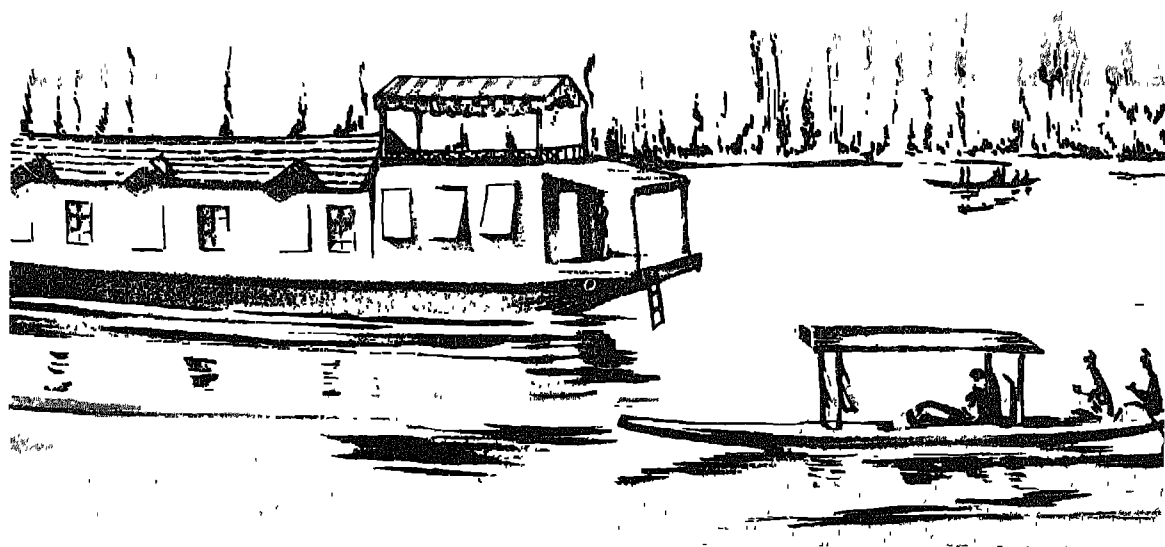
It is in the middle of the valley. The valley here looks like a cup. Do you know why?

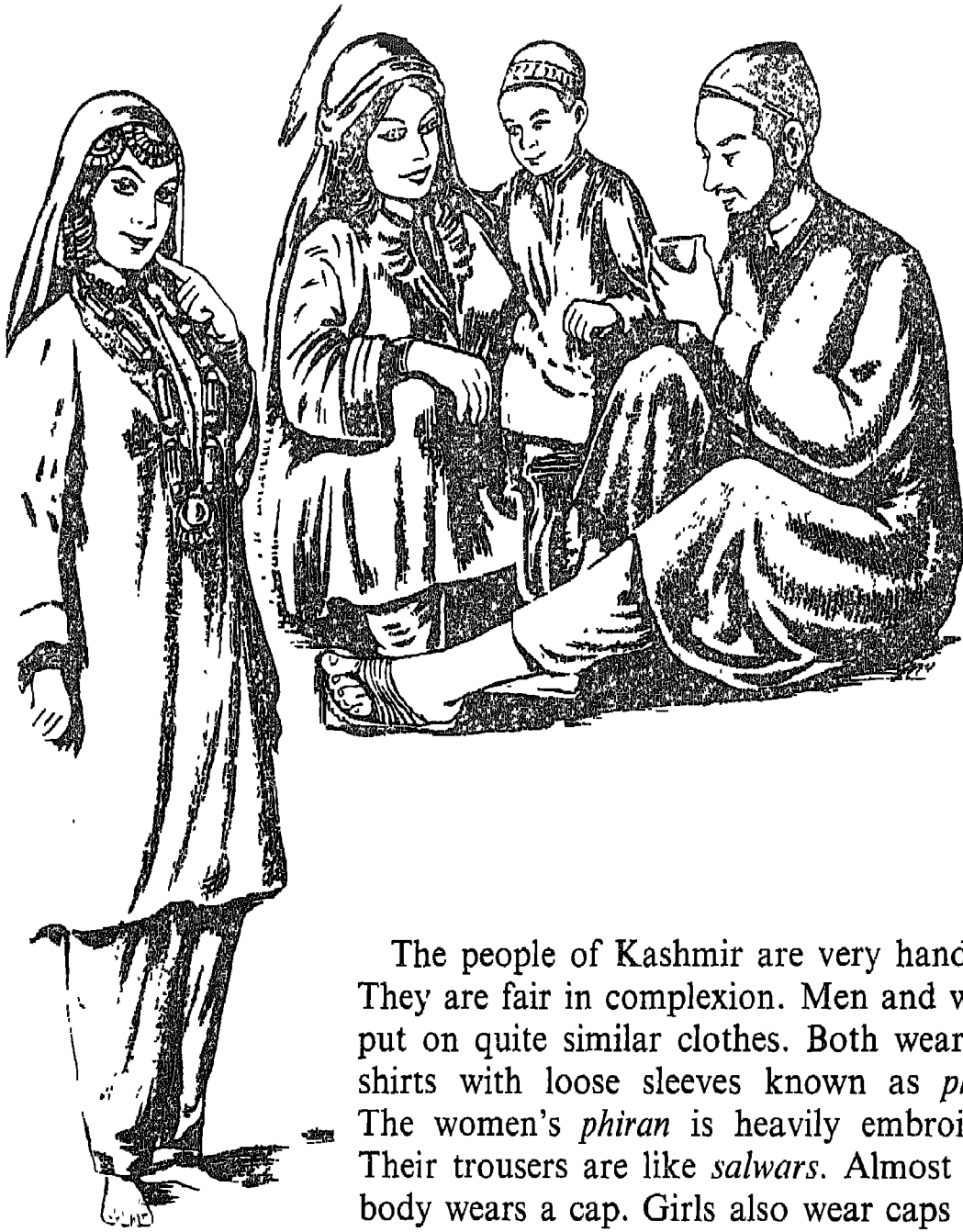
Srinagar is the capital of Jammu and Kashmir. It is situated on both sides of the River Jhelum. Nine bridges across the river connect the city on both sides. The Jhelum is very useful for Kashmir. People use it for going from one place to another in boats. Canals have also been dug for irrigation.

There are several hotels and *dharmasalas* in Srinagar. Many tourists stay there. Some others stay in houseboats. Let us hire a houseboat. It is like a big house on the boat with four or five rooms. Here we get food and all the things we need for our comfort. A number of such houseboats can be seen on the Dal Lake. Life on a houseboat is very interesting. We can move or park our houseboat, wherever we like on the lake.

There are many lakes and streams in Kashmir. Tourists go to Wular Lake for fishing and hunting ducks. In Srinagar people enjoy boating in the Dal and Nagin Lakes in shikaras. They are small, richly ornamented boats with cushions. The floating gardens on the Dal Lake look very beautiful. Cucumbers, tomatoes, melons and flowers grow on these floating gardens.

Houseboat and shikara





The people of Kashmir are very handsome. They are fair in complexion. Men and women put on quite similar clothes. Both wear loose shirts with loose sleeves known as *phirans*. The women's *phiran* is heavily embroidered. Their trousers are like *salwars*. Almost everybody wears a cap. Girls also wear caps before marriage. Their veil hangs round it. In winter Kashmiri men and women put on woollen *phiran*. When it is very cold, they use *kangri* to keep themselves warm. A *kangri* is a small earthen pot placed inside a cane basket. Burning coal is placed in the pot.



A kangri

The soil of the valley is good for growing rice. Maize is also grown there. Plenty of fish is found in the lakes. The main food of the people is rice, fish and *karam ka saag*. In winter the valley is covered with snow and nothing can be grown. So, people dry vegetables in summer and use them in winter. A special kind of green tea is found here.

To keep tea hot all the time, a special utensil known as *samovar* is used.

Look at the houses in the valley. All of them have sloping roofs. In winter the valley is covered with snow. People cannot come out of their houses. They stay at home and prepare handicraft goods. They do fine carving on walnut wood which is found in plenty in the forests of Kashmir. They make papier mache objects and paint colourful designs on them. Filigree work on silver jewellery is well known. Who has not seen and admired the beautiful carpets and shawls of Kashmir?

Like the other states of our country, people of different religions live in Jammu and Kashmir. They speak Kashmiri, Dogri and Urdu. There are several places of pilgrimage for the Hindus and the Muslims. Every year thousands of people go to the temple of Amarnath. Similarly many people go to the famous Hazrat Bal mosque and Shah Hamdan mosque. Some of the festivals are celebrated by

A samovar



the Hindus and the Muslims together. Among these *Basant* is important. Kashmiris are fond of folk songs and dances. Their *Rouf* dance is popular.

It is very pleasant in Kashmir from May to August. Large number of tourists go to Gulmarg and Pahlgaon. They stay there in tents and enjoy themselves.

Let us now have a quick round of Ladakh, the north-eastern part of Jammu and Kashmir. Ladakh is different from the valley. It is a very high plateau. We have to go there on ponies. It takes three to four weeks to reach Ladakh from Srinagar. It is very cold and very few people live there. Most of the Ladakhis are Buddhists. They are very simple and wear woollen clothes. Their big caps and strong boots save them from the biting cold snow. The people of Ladakh are very fond of dances. Ladakhi monks or Lamas take part in mask dance. Note the dress of a Lama seen on the right in the picture.

A masked dance



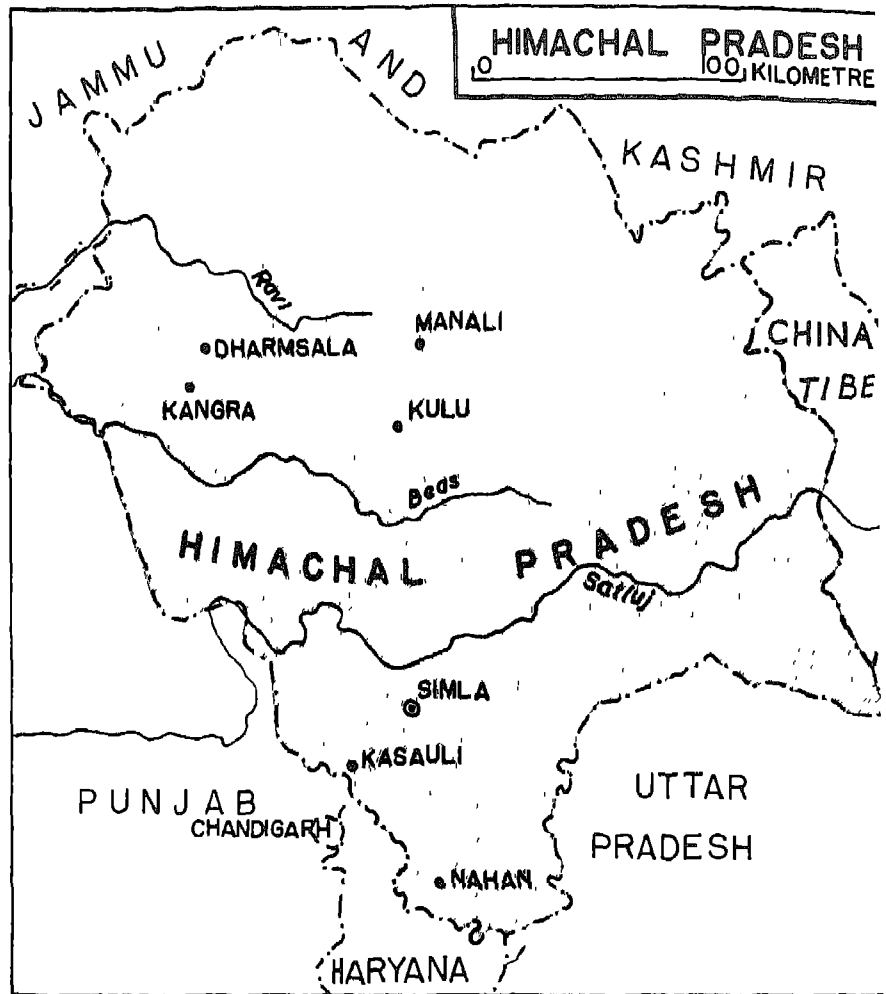
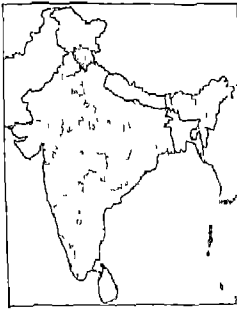
China and Pakistan have occupied some portions of this beautiful state. In 1965 Pakistan attacked this state of our country. The people cooperated with the army to drive out the enemy. It is the duty of all of us to guard our borders.

Answer these questions

1. What natural features make Kashmir so beautiful?
2. What is the usefulness of the Jhelum for Kashmir Valley?
3. In what way does the life of the people in Ladakh, Kashmir Valley and Jammu differ?
4. How can we say that people in Kashmir have respect for different religions?
5. How is the life of the people in Kashmir valley in summer different from their life in winter?

Things to do

1. Look at the map and write the names of the states and countries which touch the borders of Jammu and Kashmir State.
2. Collect some pictures of Kashmir and prepare an album.



2. Himachal Pradesh

RANA is an eight-year old boy. He lives in a village of Himachal Pradesh. It is a Union Territory.

Look at the map of Himachal Pradesh. The whole territory lies in the Himalayas. It has many rivers. Find their names on the map. Also find the names of its neighbouring states.

Himachal Pradesh is a land of valleys and hills, springs and streams. Rana's small village lies in one of the Himachal valleys.



To reach his village, you will have to climb high hills and cross many streams.

In winter, it is very cold. Many of the Himachal valleys are under snow. It is almost impossible to reach Rana's village during these winter months. There are very few roads in Himachal Pradesh. Many people go on horse-back from one place to another.

This is a picture of Rana's village. You can see that all the houses have sloping roofs. When snow falls in winter, it comes down the sloping roofs very easily.

There are many gardens, orchards and meadows in Himachal Pradesh. Rana's father works in a big orchard where apples, pears, plums, apricots and peaches grow. They are sent to other parts of the country also.

The state is very rich in forests. Pine and oak trees are common. Many people in Rana's village work in forests. They fell trees and make many things of wood such as trays, tables and walking

sticks which they sell. Like all hill people, they have to work very hard for their living.

Rana's uncle has a small farm near the village. He grows maize, barley, wheat and potatoes. He gets water for his fields from the nearby stream. Rana's neighbour is a shepherd. He keeps a big flock of sheep to get wool. The women of his family shear the sheep and weave woollen cloth.

In the cold winter days, the members of Rana's family sit round the fire and eat a meal of maize *chapatis*, dried beans and potatoes. They speak Pahari and Hindi.

They wear big loose woollen coats, *churidars*, caps and *dara* around the waist. On festive occasions, people wear brightly coloured clothes and turbans. Rana's elder sister was dressed in a gay *ghagra*, *choli*, *kameez* and *dupatta* when she was married. She looked very pretty wearing a lot of jewellery—necklace, armlet, bracelet, and *nath*—all made of silver.

Rana's brother-in-law lives in Simla. He works in a government office there. Simla is the capital of Himachal Pradesh. It is a

The folk dance 'Nati'



popular hill-station during summer. Many people visit Simla and other hill stations in the beautiful valley of Himachal Pradesh.

There is a temple outside Rana's village. During spring and summer, many fairs are held near this temple. On the occasion of the famous *Shivaratri* fair, Rana joins all his friends in singing and dancing. He takes part in the famous folk-dance, *Nati*. It is a group dance. Hundreds of people dance in a circle holding hands. Women and girls take part in *Gidda*.

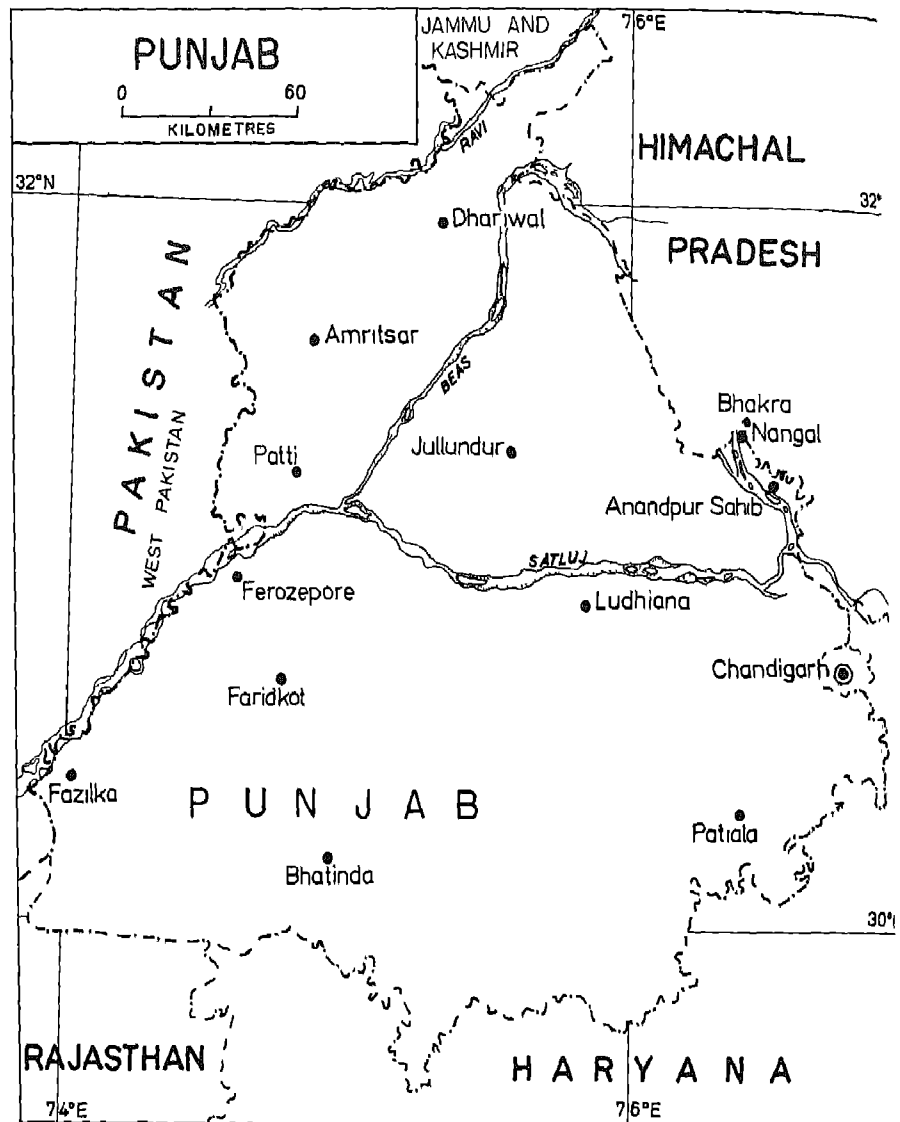
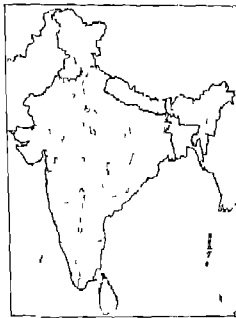
A new school has been opened in Rana's village. He goes to this school. He has his lessons in Hindi. His school closes for long vacation in winter. Can you tell why?

Answer these questions

1. Why is it difficult to go from one place to another in winter in Himachal Pradesh?
2. Why does Himachal Pradesh have very few roads?
3. What do the people of Himachal Pradesh do to earn their living?
4. How do the people of Himachal Pradesh celebrate *Shivaratri* fair?
5. Put a tick mark (✓) against the correct answer. Houses in Himachal Pradesh have sloping roofs because—
 - () it is easier to make sloping roofs.
 - () they are stronger than flat roofs.
 - () they help the snow come down easily.

Things to do

1. From a wall map of India make a list of all the important hill stations, rivers and valleys of Himachal Pradesh.
2. Collect pictures of the dress, food, folk dances and the natural scenes of Himachal Pradesh and arrange them in an album.



3. Punjab

IN THE above map you can see that Punjab is also an important border state of India. In the west, Punjab State makes a long boundary with West Pakistan. To the north, east and south of Punjab State are its neighbouring states of Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana and Rajasthan.

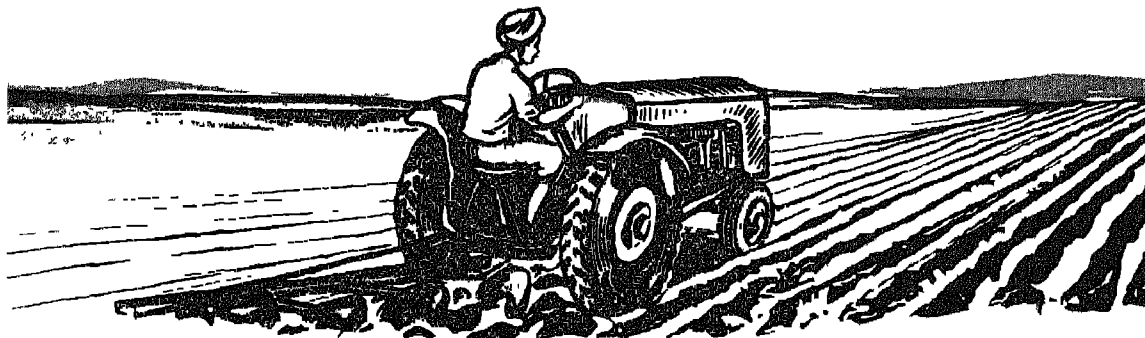
Do you know how Punjab got its name? The word *pun* means five, and *ab* means water or river. Hence we get the word 'Punjab'—'The Land of the Five Rivers'. These five rivers are the Beas, the Sutlej, the Ravi, the Chenab and the Jhelum. All these rivers rise in the Himalayas. Can you find these rivers on the map? Before India became free, Punjab used to be much bigger and all these rivers flowed through it.

On 15th August, 1947, when India became free, a large part of the Punjab went to Pakistan. In 1966 the Punjab was further divided into the present states of Haryana and Punjab. A small part of Punjab was added to Himachal Pradesh. The present Punjab State has only three rivers—the Beas, the Sutlej and the Ravi.

After crossing the valleys and high hills of Himachal Pradesh, the Sutlej and the Beas enter the plains of Punjab to make it fertile and good for crops. Their water is used for irrigating fields. Most of the people of Punjab are farmers. They grow wheat, gram, *bajra*, *jowar*, maize, barley, sugarcane and cotton. Punjab wheat is known all over the country.

Punjab gets most of its rainfall in the months of July and August. It also gets some rain in winter. Here winters are very cold and summers are very hot.

Punjab has a fertile soil. If you ever visit a village here, you will see green fields all around. You will find farmers working on their fields. They are now changing to new methods of farming. Some of the farmers use tractors for ploughing and tube-wells for watering their fields. These tube-wells are run by electricity. Do you know how they get electricity?



You must have heard of the famous Bhakra Dam. It is built across the River Sutlej. There is a very big power station at Bhakra where electricity is produced. Canals have also been constructed to irrigate fields. Electricity and canal waters are supplied to distant villages and towns in Punjab and also to Haryana, Rajasthan and Delhi. Now farmers grow richer crops on account of improved means of irrigation and farming.

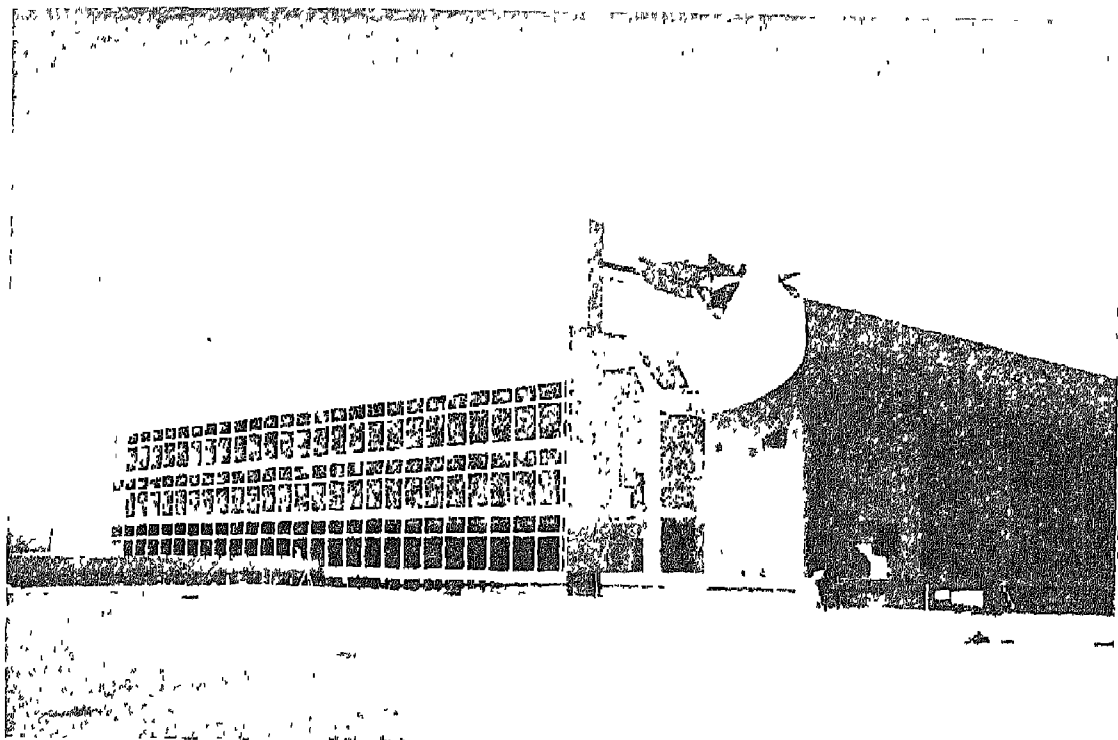
The men generally wear *kurta*, turban and *tahmad* or a pair of trousers. Women put on *salwar*, *kameez* and *chunni*. They are very fond of *lassi* and drink plenty of milk. Their main food is wheat chapatis with dal or vegetables. They love to eat *sarson ka saag* with maize chapatis. Many of them take meat also. The cows and buffaloes here are very healthy and give a lot of milk.

The people of Punjab have a lot of fun on their festivals. *Lohri*, *Basant Panchmi*, *Baisakhi*, *Rakhi*, *Gurupurab*, *Dasehra* and *Diwali* are their main festivals. The *Bhangra* is their famous dance. It is accompanied by folk songs. *Gidra* dance is also popular among women. People speak Punjabi and Hindi.

Life in Punjab is changing fast these days. A number of small and big industries have come up. Ludhiana has grown into a

Bhangra dance





High Court Building, Chandigarh

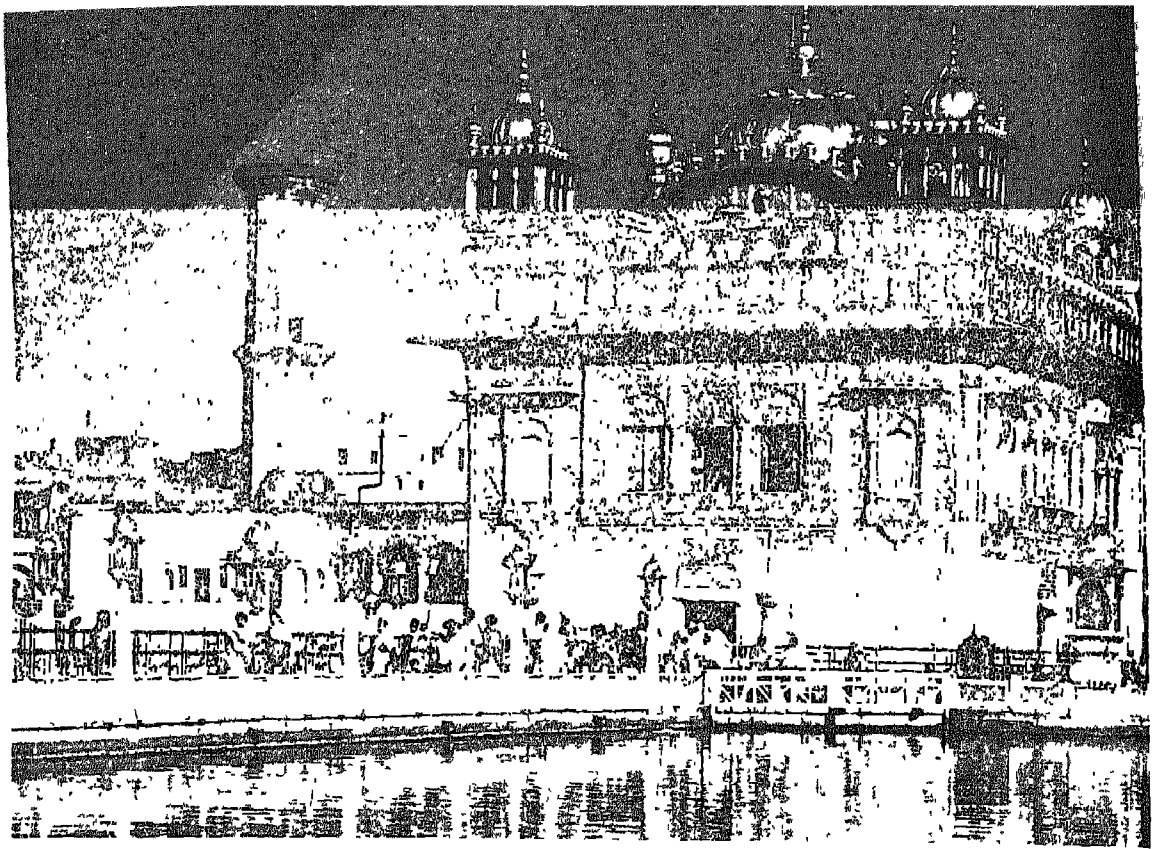
big industrial town. It is known for its hosiery goods, cycles and sewing machines. Dhariwal is famous for its woollens all over the country. Many people work in these industries.

Chandigarh is the common capital of Punjab and Haryana. It is a well planned city built only a few years ago. The whole city has been divided into thirty sectors. Each sector has provision for a market, a post office, a school and a police post.

The houses are airy and spacious. The city has many parks, playgrounds and shady trees on both sides of the roads. The snow-covered peaks of the high Himalayas can be seen in the far north. They present a beautiful view.

Chandigarh has many fine buildings. Of these, the Secretariat and the High Court buildings are worth seeing.

Amritsar and Anandpur Sahib are the holy cities of the Sikhs.



Golden Temple, Amritsar

The Golden Temple of Amritsar is very famous.

The people of Punjab are very strong and hardworking. They can take to any kind of job—carpentry, farming, business or service. Many of them now work in factories also. They lead a very hard and simple life. They love to serve in the army and make very good soldiers.

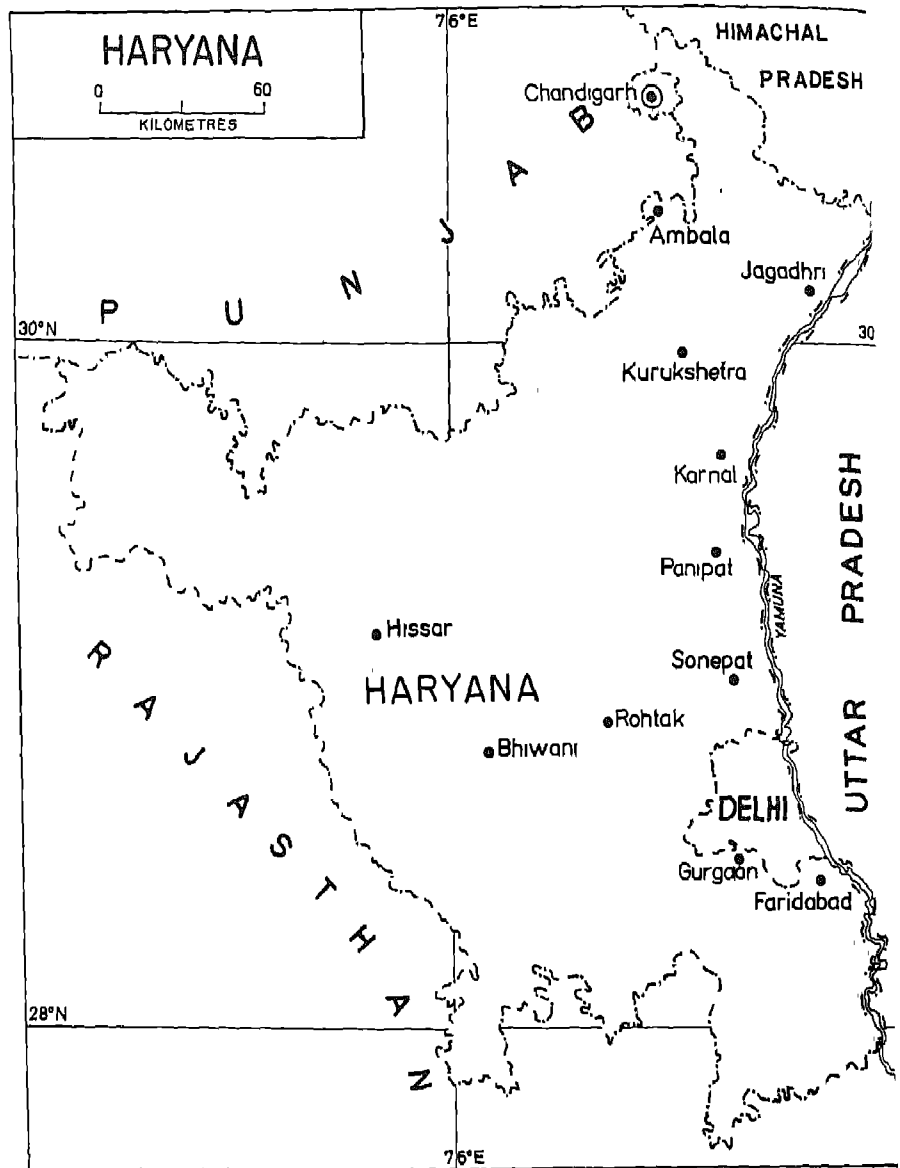
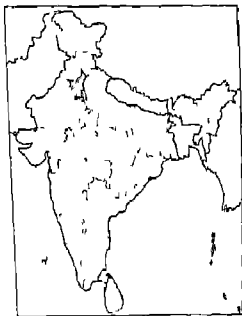
Answer these questions

1. Do you know how Punjab got its name? Tell the story of Punjab State in three or four sentences.
2. Why are farmers of Punjab able to grow rich crops?
3. Name any four things Punjab is known for.
4. What are some important occupations of the people of Punjab?

5. Rearrange the following table correctly.
- | | |
|------------|--|
| Chandigarh | is known for the biggest dam in the country. |
| Ludhiana | is the capital of Punjab. |
| Dhariwal | is a religious place of the Sikhs. |
| Amritsar | is known for hosiery goods. |
| Bhakra | is known for woollens. |

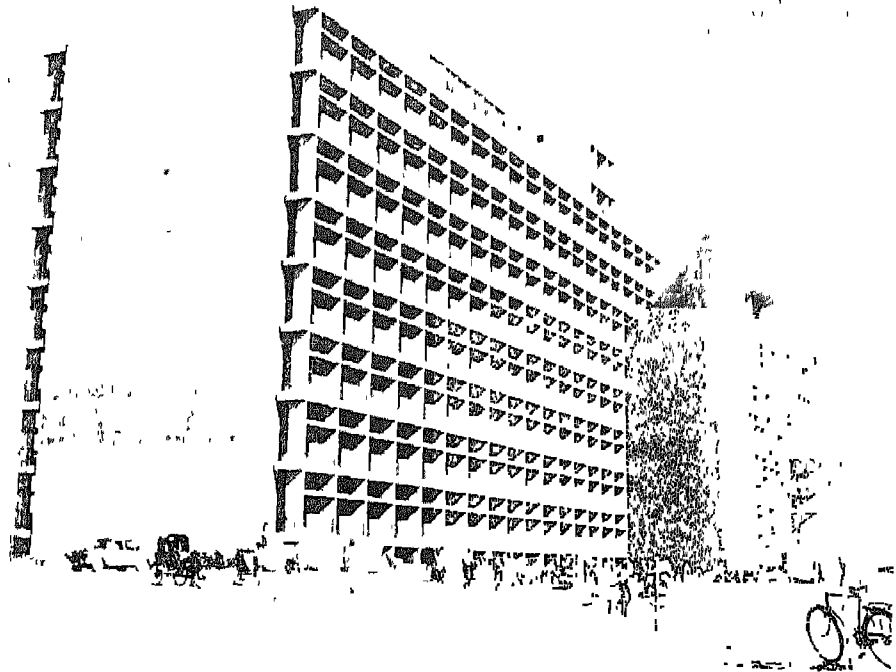
Things to do

1. Collect information and pictures about the dress, festivals and folk dances of the people of Punjab.
2. Read the story of Guru Nanak and Guru Gobind Singh.



4. Haryana

IN THE previous chapter you read about Chandigarh. It is the common capital of Punjab and Haryana. You know many things about Punjab State. Haryana is a neighbouring state of Punjab. Let us learn about this state.



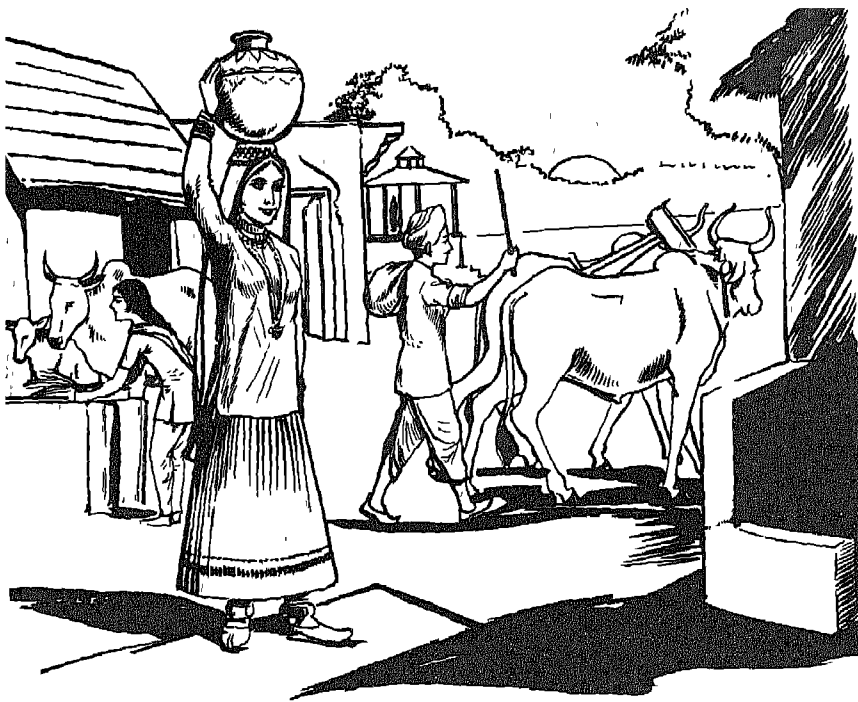
Secretariat Building, Chandigarh

Look at the map of Haryana, and name its neighbouring states. Also note its position on the map of India on page

Haryana is a small state. It has only seven districts. Most of the people live in villages. The picture on this page shows a morning scene in a Haryana village. Look at the picture carefully. It tells us something about the life of the people in this state.

It is early morning in the village. The sun has just risen. You can see a man, a woman and a girl and also cows, buffaloes, calves and bullocks. The man is going to the fields for ploughing. The woman is going to fetch water from the village well. The girl is feeding the cattle. It seems that everybody in the village is off to work.

Now look at their clothes. Do you also wear such clothes? In what way do their clothes differ from those of Kashmiri and Punjabi people? In Haryana most of the men wear *dhoti*, *kurta* and turban or cap. The women and girls wear either



lahanga—orhana or *salwar-kameez*. When it is very cold in winter, they put on some woollen or heavy clothes. The women of Haryana are very fond of silver jewellery. In the picture note the kind of jewellery this woman is wearing round her neck, wrists and legs.

Like Punjab, Haryana gets most of its rain in summer. The summers are very hot and the winters are quite cold here.

The whole of Haryana is a plain. The soil is very fertile and good for growing wheat, gram, barley, *jowar*, *bajra* and maize. Besides these crops, the farmers of Haryana grow sugarcane, cotton and vegetables. Now many villages have electricity. The farmers are changing to new methods of farming. They use tractors on their farms. They get water from tubewells. They grow more crops and vegetables than before. Some farmers live on their farms.

Haryana is famous for its fine cattle. In most homes you will find healthy cows and buffaloes. They give plenty of milk. Delhi gets much of its milk from Haryana. People love their cattle and look after them very well. They send them to the cattle fairs which are held every year. Prizes are awarded to the

owners of well bred and healthy cattle. There is a big cattle farm at Hissar. The Hissar breed of cow is well known. Karnal is known for its dairy farm.

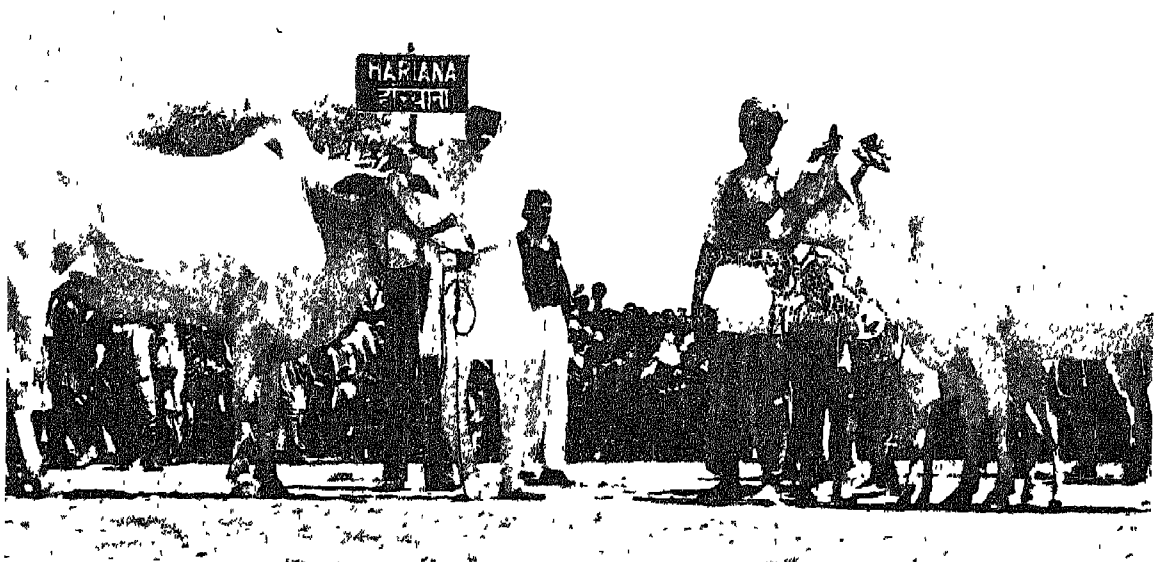
A number of factories have come up in Haryana. Many people work in these factories. Faridabad has grown into an industrial town. It has many factories. Jagadhri is known for its paper mills, Bhiwani for textiles and Panipat for handlooms. There is a big cycle factory at Sonapat.

Kurukshetra is an important town. It has a university. At the time of the solar eclipse, thousands of people come to Kurukshetra to have a dip in the holy tank. The battle of the Mahabharata was fought here in ancient times. Lord Krishna gave the message of Gita to Arjuna in this battle.

The people of Haryana speak Hindi. They are healthy and strong. They work very hard in their fields. Many young men are eager to join the army. They make good soldiers.

The women and girls are fond of singing and dancing. They have a lot of fun on festivals. The important festivals of Haryana are *Basant Panchmi*, *Holi*, *Rakhi*, *Dasehra*, *Diwali*, *Lohri*, *Teej* and *Id*.

A scene at a cattle fair in Haryana



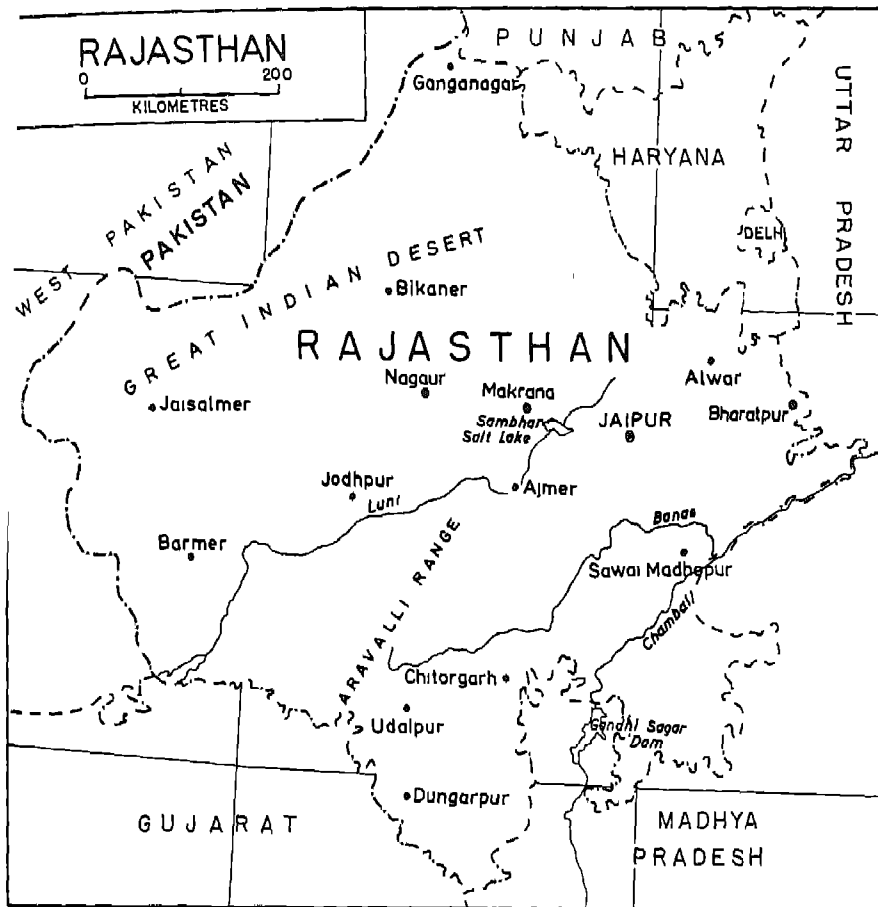
Answer these questions

1. What are the main occupations of the people of Haryana State?
2. What are the chief crops of Haryana?
3. Name some of the important industries of this state.
4. Name any two things Haryana is known for.
5. Given below are the names of some important towns of Haryana and the reasons why they are famous. From column II, find the number of the correct reason and write it in the bracket provided against each town in column I.

Column I		Column II
()	Hissar	(1) Industrial town
()	Faridabad	(2) Solar eclipse fair
()	Chandigarh	(3) Cattle farm
()	Sonepat	(4) Capital city
()	Jagadhri	(5) Cycle factory
()	Bhiwani	(6) Paper mills
()	Kurukshetra	(7) Textile industry
()	Karnal	(8) Handloom bed-spreads
		(9) Dairy farm

Things to do

1. Look at the map and find out the neighbouring states of Haryana. Also locate the following important towns: Faridabad, Jagadhri, Bhiwani, Sonepat, Kurukshetra and Chandigarh.
2. Listen to the rural programme broadcast from All India Radio for the Haryana people.



5. Rajasthan

HAVE YOU ever heard of a pink city? What is its name? Why is it called so?

There is a pink city in our country. It is Jaipur in Rajasthan. A large number of its houses, shops, buildings and the city palace walls are pink in colour. Isn't it a good reason to call it the pink city?

Jaipur is a beautiful city. It was built by Raja Jai Singh about two hundred and fifty years ago. It is rectangular in form and is divided into blocks by main roads running north to south and



Hawa Mahal, Jaipur

east to west. The Hawa Mahal, the City Palace, the Museum and the Observatory of Jaipur are worth visiting. The Amber Fort near Jaipur built on a hill is also very beautiful.

Now look at the map of Rajasthan. It is one of the largest states of India. Punjab, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat are its neighbouring states. Rajasthan is an important border state of our country. On the west, it has a long boundary with West Pakistan.

Farmers grow *bajra*, *jawar*, wheat, maize, cotton, oilseeds, pulses and tobacco. They do not

get enough water for their crops. Rainfall is poor and much of the land is dry.

In some parts of Rajasthan, there are long ranges of hills and thin forests. The Aravalli range runs through the state. The main rivers are the Chambal, the Luni and the Banas. Sambhar is a big salt water lake. Salt is made from its water. You can locate the lake and these rivers on the map.

The western part of Rajasthan is a big dry desert. In this part of the state there are not many villages and cities. There are only a few roads and railway lines. Camels are used for carrying people and goods from one place to another. Hence the camel has been rightly called 'the ship of the desert'.

Recently, an underground water basin was found in Jaisalmer district. Deep tube-wells have been sunk there. The underground water is pumped out by means of these tube-wells. This water is sweet and good for drinking and watering fields.

The Ganganagar area of Rajasthan now gets water from the canal fed by the Bhakra Dam. The Rajasthan canal and the Chambal Project, when completed, will supply water to large areas of the state. The desert land of Rajasthan will then be turned into a fertile land.

Mica and uranium are found in this state. The marble of Makarana and Nagaur is well known. Cement is made from limestone in the cement factories of Lakheri and Sawai Madhopur.

A large number of people in Rajasthan work in small and cottage industries. The ivory and brass-work, wooden toys and marble statues, embroidered shoes and 'tie and dye' *sarees* of Jaipur are very popular.

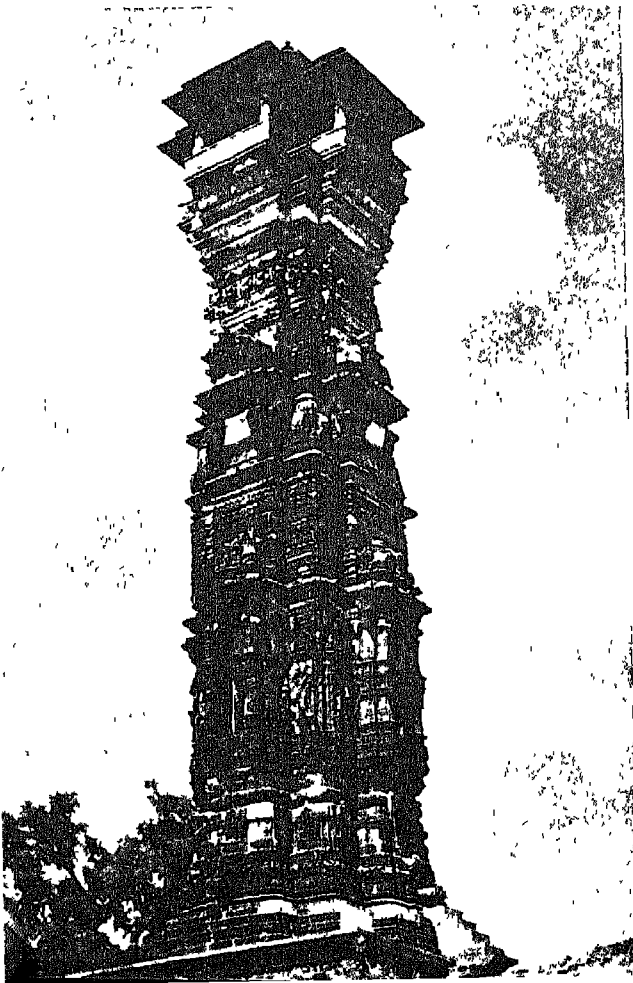
Rajasthan is a dry, desert land. But its people are very lively and cheerful. They wear very colourful clothes. The men put on *kurta*, *dhoti* and

turban. On special occasions, they wear *churidar pyjamas*, *achkan* and a *pagri*. The women wear a skirt called *ghaghra* and a blouse called *kanchli*. The *orhini* is worn over the head and covers the whole body. They are very fond of jewellery and wear ornaments from head to foot. Notice the type of jewellery this woman is wearing. How





Victory Tower, Chittorgarh Fort



beautiful she looks!

The people of Rajasthan celebrate *Dasehra* and *Diwali* in the same way as the people of Punjab and Haryana. *Gangaur* is their harvest festival. *Teej* is a monsoon festival for young girls and women. They wear very colourful clothes on this occasion. They dance and sing with joy.

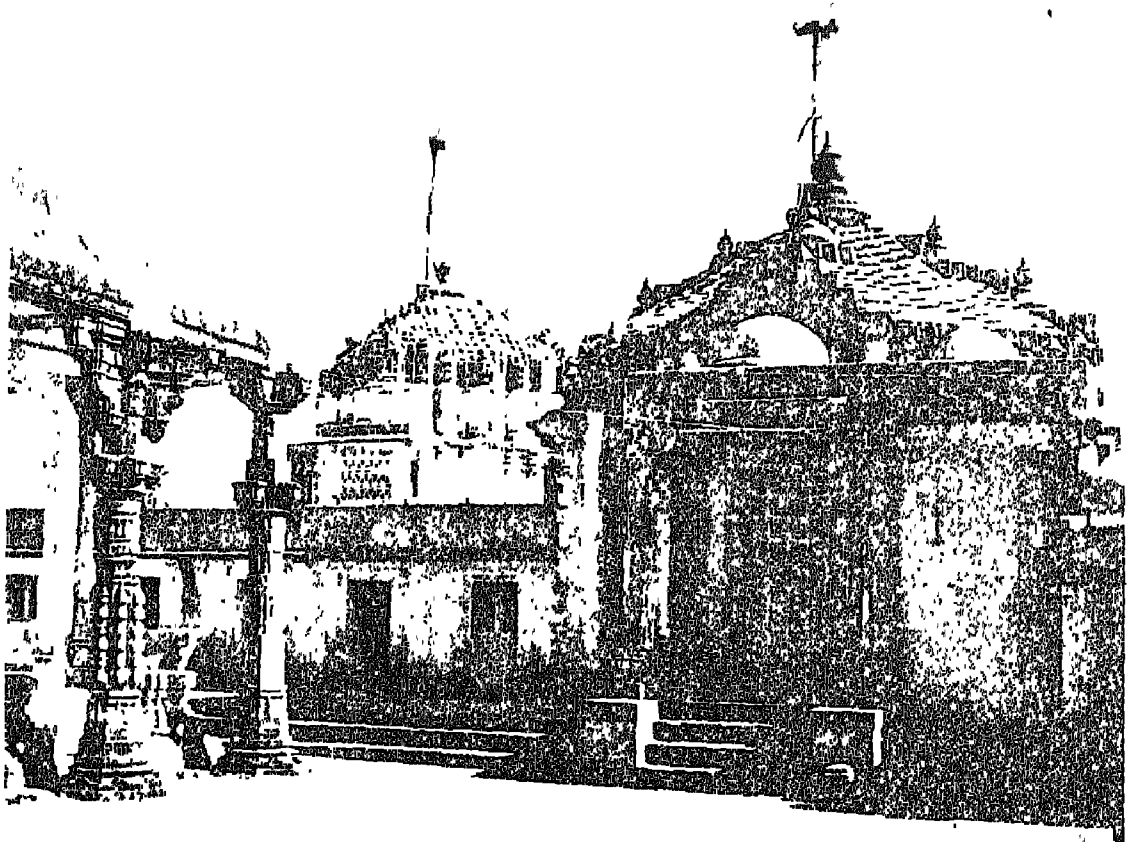
Rajasthan has a number of places of historical interest. Each important town of the state tells us the history of the brave Rajput kings and warriors

like Rana Sanga, Rana Pratap and Durgadas. The Rajputs are known for their bravery and love of the motherland.

The fort of Chittorgarh and its tower of victory attract many visitors. It is associated with pious Mirabai and the sacrifices of Padmini and Jaimal. Udaipur is another important city. It has many gardens, lakes, temples and palaces. It is also called 'the city of lakes'. The *Jal Mahal* or the island palace of Udaipur is worth seeing. The famous Dilwara temples on Mount Abu are sacred to the Jains. Mount Abu is one of the prettiest hill stations of India.

The palaces and forts of Jodhpur, Jaisalmer, Bikaner, Alwar and Bharatpur are also worth visiting. Thousands of Muslims visit the holy Ajmer Dargah every year. Pushkar, near Ajmer, is a holy place for the Hindus.

Dilwara Temple

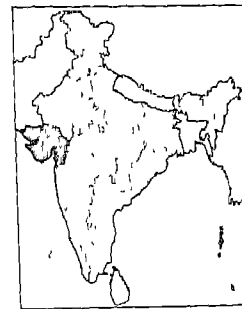
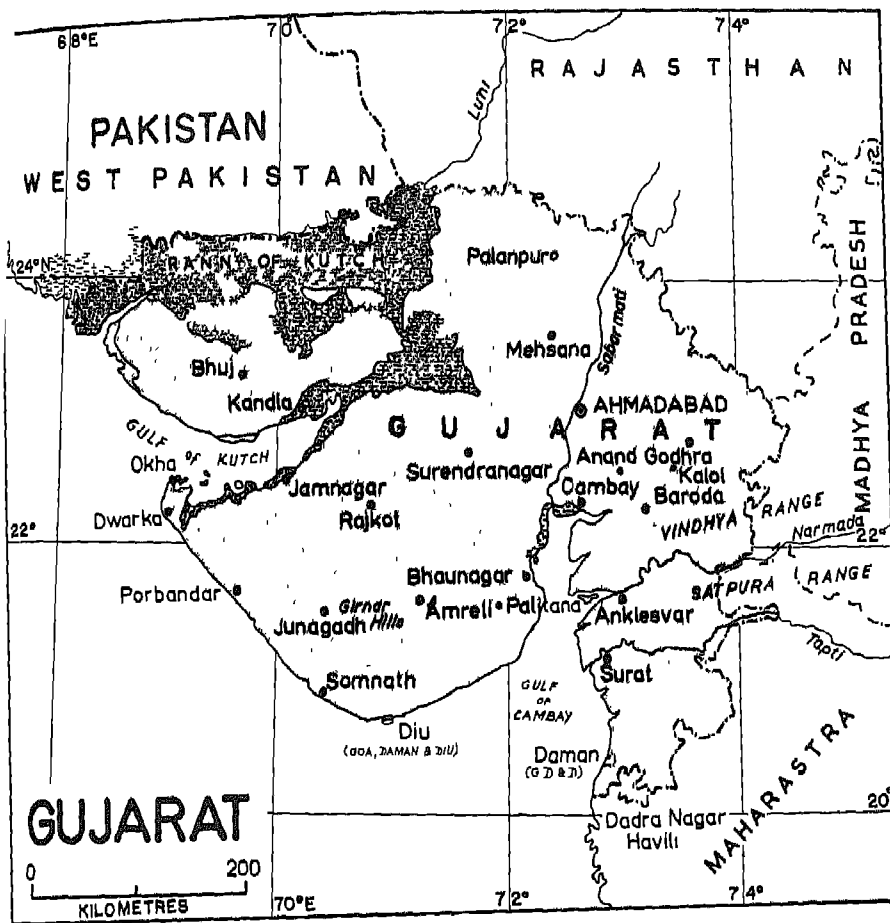


Answer these questions

1. What are the main occupations of the people of Rajasthan?
2. What are the following cities known for?
Jaipur, Udaipur, Chittorgarh, Ajmer, Bikaner and Jodhpur.
3. Why do we call Jaipur the pink city of India?
4. Name a few minerals found in Rajasthan.
5. Fill in the blanks with the right word:
 - a) _____ are known for their bravery and love of the motherland.
 - b) _____ is called the city of lakes.
 - c) _____ Makarana and Nagaur are well known for _____
 - d) _____ and _____ are the main festivals of Rajasthan.
 - e) _____ of Mount Abu are sacred to the Jains.

Things to do

1. Make a list of the important towns of Rajasthan.
2. Read the stories of Rana Sanga, Mirabai, Maharana Pratap and Vir Durgadas.



6. Gujarat

DHANA PATEL's family lives in a village. This village is at the foot of Girnar Hills. Radha is the youngest child in the family. She is of your age.

Girnar Hills are covered with forests. *Sheesham*, teak, *pipal*, banian and bamboo are some of the important trees. These forests are called the Gir forests. The Gir forest is also famous for lions.

Radha's village is in Saurashtra. It is a part of Gujarat close to the Arabian Sea.

Now look at the map carefully. The Arabian Sea surrounds Gujarat State in the south and the west. Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan are its neighbouring states. In the north-west, it makes a boundary with West Pakistan. You can find the rivers Sabarmati, Mahi, Narmada and Tapti on the map.

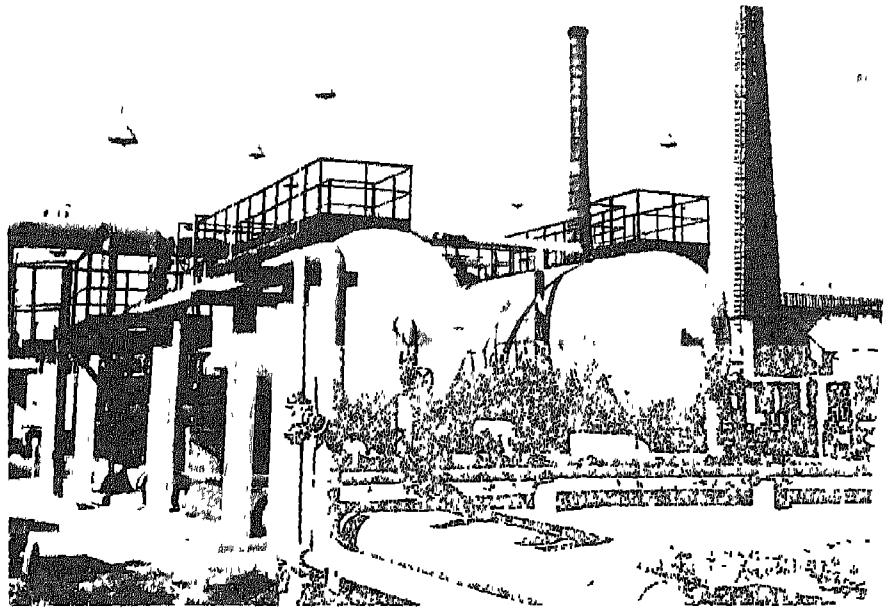
Radha's father is a farmer. He has a small farm near his village. The soil of his fields is good for growing cotton. He also grows *bajra*, wheat, groundnut and some other crops. Radha's father gets a rich cotton crop every year. Radha and her mother help him in the fields when they are not busy at home. Radha likes to pick the cotton bolls.

There are many big cotton mills in Ahmadabad. Many people work in these mills. Ahmadabad is known for its textiles all over India. In Baroda there are big factories which make medicines and fertilizers.

Radha's mother spins fine cotton thread on her spinning wheel, when she is free. Radha's father always wears clothes made of homespun thread. In the villages of Gujarat many women spin on the *Ambar Charkha*. It helps them spin fast.

Some parts of the north-west Gujarat State are dry. In the





A view of the oil refinery near Baroda

rainy season this region becomes marshy. It is unfit for growing any crops. It is known as the 'Rann of Kutch'. Find it on the map.

In Gujarat there are a number of oil wells at Cambay, Ankleshwar and Kalol. To clean oil, a big oil refinery is coming up near Baroda.

There is a big dairy at Anand, the Amul Cooperative Dairy. It is famous all over India for its milk products.

Radha's elder brother is an overseer. He is posted at Gandhi Nagar. It is a new city which is being built on the bank of the Sabarmati river near Ahmadabad. It will be the new capital of Gujarat State. The present capital of Gujarat State is Ahmadabad. The *Sabarmati Ashram* is there.

Gandhi Nagar is far off from Radha's village. Her brother visits his family only once or twice a year. His visit generally coincides with some festival. *Holi*, *Navratri*, *Dasehra*, *Diwali* and *Id* are some of the festivals of Gujarat.

When Radha's brother comes home, he never forgets to bring a packet of *magaz* and *ghari*. These are very special sweets of Gujarat. Radha loves eating *ghari*.

In the picture, the Patels are getting ready for lunch. Radha's



mother has cooked many tasty dishes today. She is serving rice, *puri*, *dal*, vegetable, curd, sauce, and *papad*. People in Gujarat love to take such food. They are also very fond of sweet and sour pickles of different kinds.

Note the dress of Radha's parents and brother in the picture. Many Gujarati men wear *dhoti-kurta* and Gandhi cap. Others love to wear *Churidar* trousers, jackets and colourful turbans. Women wear *saree*, *ghagra*, and *choli*.

There is a school in Radha's village. Radha goes to school every day. She studies in Grade 3. She has her lessons in Gujarati. She also learns Hindi. People of Gujarat speak Gujarati. They also know Hindi.

Radha is very fond of singing and dancing. At school she takes part in *Garba* dance. It is the famous folk dance of Gujarat. The women take part in *Garba* on *Navratri*, and *Sharad Purnima*. *Ras* is another very popular dance.

There are many holy places in Gujarat. Dwarka and Somnath are known for their Hindu temples. The Jain temples on Shatrun-

jay hill near Palitana are well known. Porbander is the birth place of Mahatma Gandhi.

Gujarat is a coastal state of India. There are many ports on the Gujarat sea coast. Dwarka, Okha, Jamnagar and Kandla are very important. You can find these ports and other religious places on the map.

A Garba dance



Answer these questions

1. What are the important crops of Gujarat?
2. Name any three things Gujarat is known for.
3. What are the following places known for?
Ahmadabad, Baroda, Anand, Ankleshwar, Cambay and Jamnagar.
4. What are the important occupations of the people of Gujarat?

5. Given below are the names of a few folk dances. Against each of these names write the name of the state where it belongs:

Rouf _____

Bhangra _____

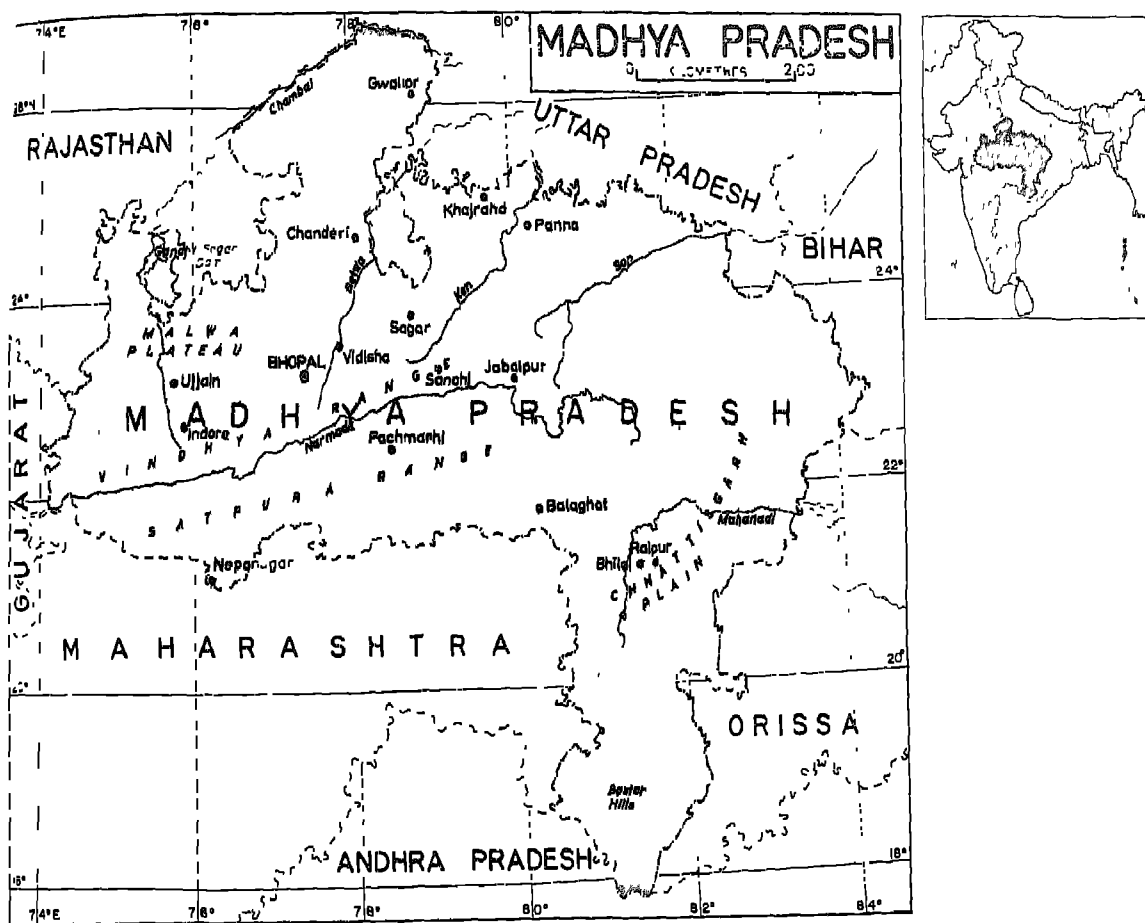
Nati _____

Gidda _____

Garba _____

Things to do

1. From the map, make a list of all the important ports of Gujarat State.
2. Request your teacher to tell you more about Somnath and Shatrunjay.



7. Madhya Pradesh

LOOK AT the above map of Madhya Pradesh. It is the largest state of our country. You will note from the map that seven states touch its boundary. Name these states.

At some places in the state land is level while at other places it is hilly. In the northern part of the State the Chambal, the Betwa, the Ken and the Son rivers flow. In the western part lies the Malwa Plateau. The black soil here is good for cultivation. People grow wheat, cotton, oil seeds, *jowar* and *bajra*. The large and deep ravines have made part of the land in this region unfit for cultivation.

The land in the north-eastern part of the state is hilly. Very little of it can be used for agriculture. This area is rich in minerals. Coal, iron and manganese are found here

In the map note the Vindhya and Satpura ranges. Between these ranges lies the Narmada valley. The Narmada river has made it fertile. In the south-eastern part of the state you will find the Chattisgarh plain. The Mahanadi flows through it and has made the plain fertile. The main crop of this area is rice. To the south of this plain lies a hilly region known as Bastar. It is covered with thick forests.

In the northern part of the state it is hot in summer and cold in winter. As you go to the south you do not find it so cold in winter. The rainfall is also not the same at all places.

Forests cover about one third of the area of the state. They become thicker as you go towards the east. A variety of trees grow in this region. Sal, teak, *har*, and *bahera* are the important trees. These trees give us very fine wood. The *Temru* tree is also found in these forests. Its leaves are used for making *bidi*. Many people earn their living through *bidi*-making.

People who live in Narmada valley grow rice. In the western parts of the state wheat, groundnut, cotton, *jowar* and maize are cultivated. Here the rainfall is not enough. Therefore, irrigation is needed. The rivers get water only during the rains. Sometimes when the rainfall is very heavy there are floods. Several dams some of them very large have been built to store water during the rains. Gandhi Sagar Dam on the Chambal river is important. It helps to irrigate the land and also to produce electricity for the towns and villages in the area.

In the plains pucca houses have flat roofs. The houses in the plateau region have walls made of mud or stones and sloping roofs made of stone tiles. The common dress for men is *dhoti* and shirt. In the cities women wear *saree* but in the villages, women put on *ghagra* and *choli*. The main food of the people is wheat, *chapati*, rice, pulses and vegetables. The people of



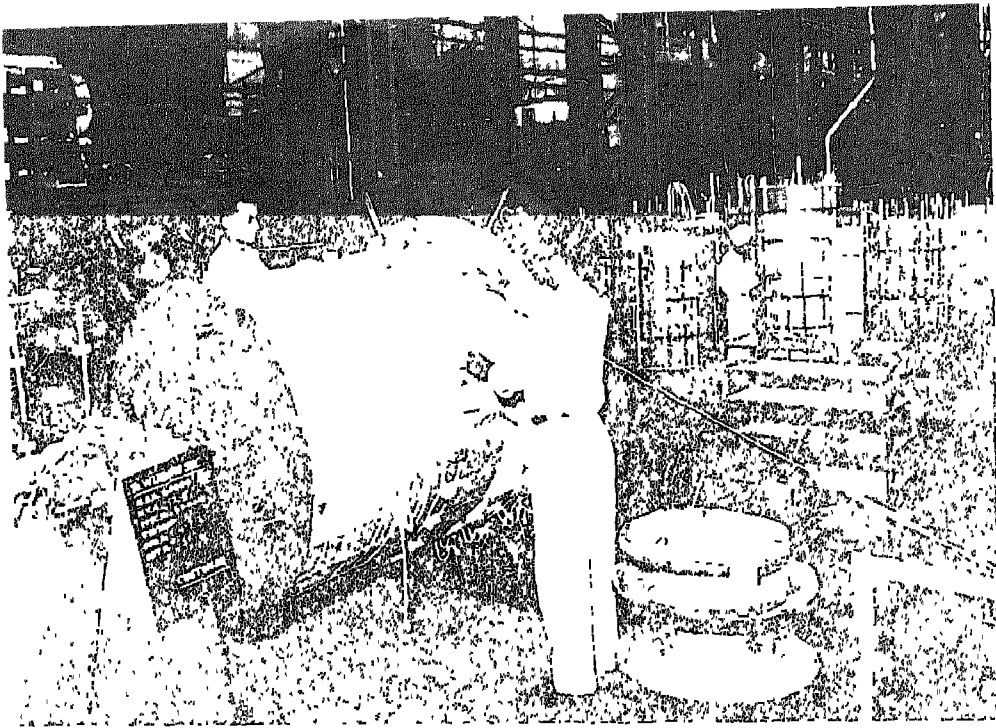
Madhya Pradesh speak Hindi. They are fond of music and dances. They celebrate *Holi*, *Dasehra*, *Diwali* and *Id*.

There are many tribal people in Madhya Pradesh. Most of them live in the Chhattisgarh plain and Bastar region. They are good hunters. They use the bow and arrow for hunting. They live in small huts and wear very little clothing. They earn their living by cutting wood or working as labourers. Some of them have taken to farming also. They eat bread made of *jowar* and *bajra*. They love to dance and sing. While dancing they put on horns on their heads. Their dances are really delightful. Our government is helping these tribal people to improve their living conditions in many ways.

Point out Bhopal on the map. This is the capital of the state. It is a beautiful city. Here the government has set up a big factory for producing electrical goods. It is known as 'Heavy Electricals' factory.

Now locate Ujjain and Indore on the map. In olden days Ujjain was known as Ujjaini. It is famous for its Mahakaleshwar temple. There are many cotton textile mills in Ujjain and Indore. Thousands of people work in these mills. At Nepanagar there is a very big newsprint mill.

Gwalior lies to the north of Bhopal. It is an old city. The Gwalior Fort and Rani Jhansi's *Samadhi* are worth a visit.



People at work in the Heavy Electricals, Bhopal

In recent times it has grown into a big industrial town. There are cotton and rayon silk factories, biscuit factories and potteries. Handloom sarees of Chanderi are popular.

Near Raipur the Government has set up the Bhilai Iron and Steel Factory. The factory gets iron ore and coal from the north-eastern parts of the state. At Panna there are diamond mines. Some other minerals like manganese and bauxite are also found here. Visitors go to Jabalpur to see the Marble Rocks on the banks of Narmada River.

The state has many old buildings and monuments. Sanchi *Stupa*, Khajuraho temples and Vidisha caves are famous.

Answer these questions

1. Name the states which touch the boundary of Madhya Pradesh.
2. What are the important crops of Madhya Pradesh?
3. Name four important industries of Madhya Pradesh.
4. Why do only a few people work on farms in the north-eastern part of Madhya Pradesh?

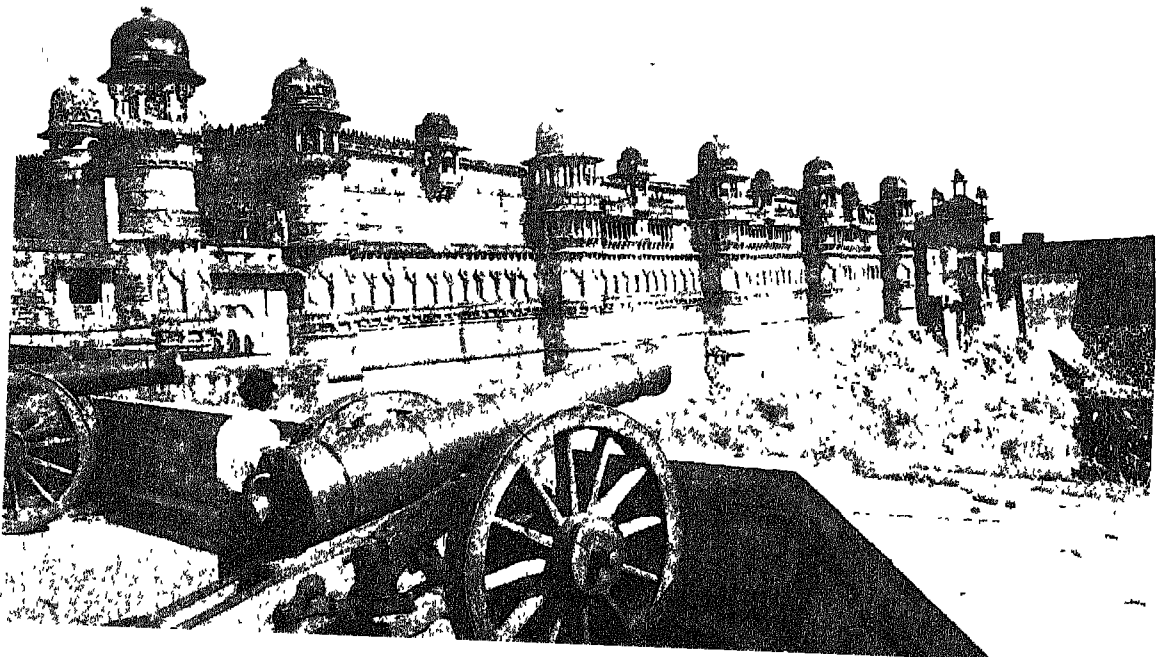
5. Below are given a few statements Put a mark (✓) against the statements which are correct for Madhya Pradesh.

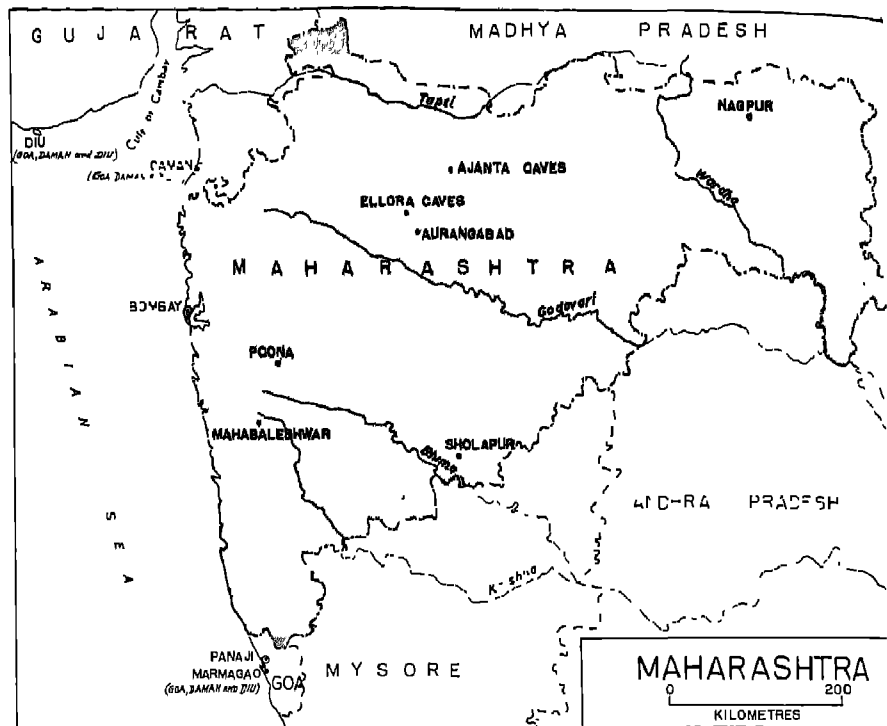
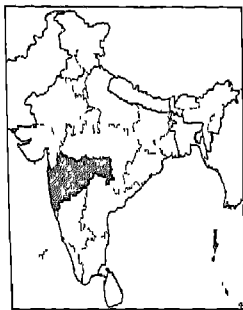
- () All of the land surface is level.
- () Minerals are found here.
- () Forests are rich in pine and *deodar* trees.
- () Most of the land in this state is covered with forests.

Things to do

1. Show on the map of Madhya Pradesh
 - a) State boundaries
 - b) Main rivers : Chambal, Betwa, Ken, Son, Narmada
 - c) Cities : Gwalior, Indore, Ujjain, Neplanagar, Bhopal, Bhilai, Jabalpur and Pachmarhi.
2. Collect pictures of the Vidisha temples, Khajuraho and Sanchi *Stupa* and request your teacher to tell you more about these places.

Gwalior Fort





8. Maharashtra

LOOK AT the above map. It shows the State of Maharashtra. It lies along the Arabian Sea on the west coast. Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Mysore and Goa are its neighbouring states.

Maharashtra is a large state. It has a long sea coast. Along the sea coast there is a narrow strip of low land which is very fertile. It gets heavy rainfall in summer. This region is neither very hot nor very cold. Close to this plain are the Western Ghats. These are covered with thick forests of teak and palm. There are many forts on the hills of the Western Ghats. These hill forts tell us the stories of the famous Maratha chiefs. Shivaji was the most famous among them. He built up a chain of hill forts along the Satpura ranges and the Western Ghats.

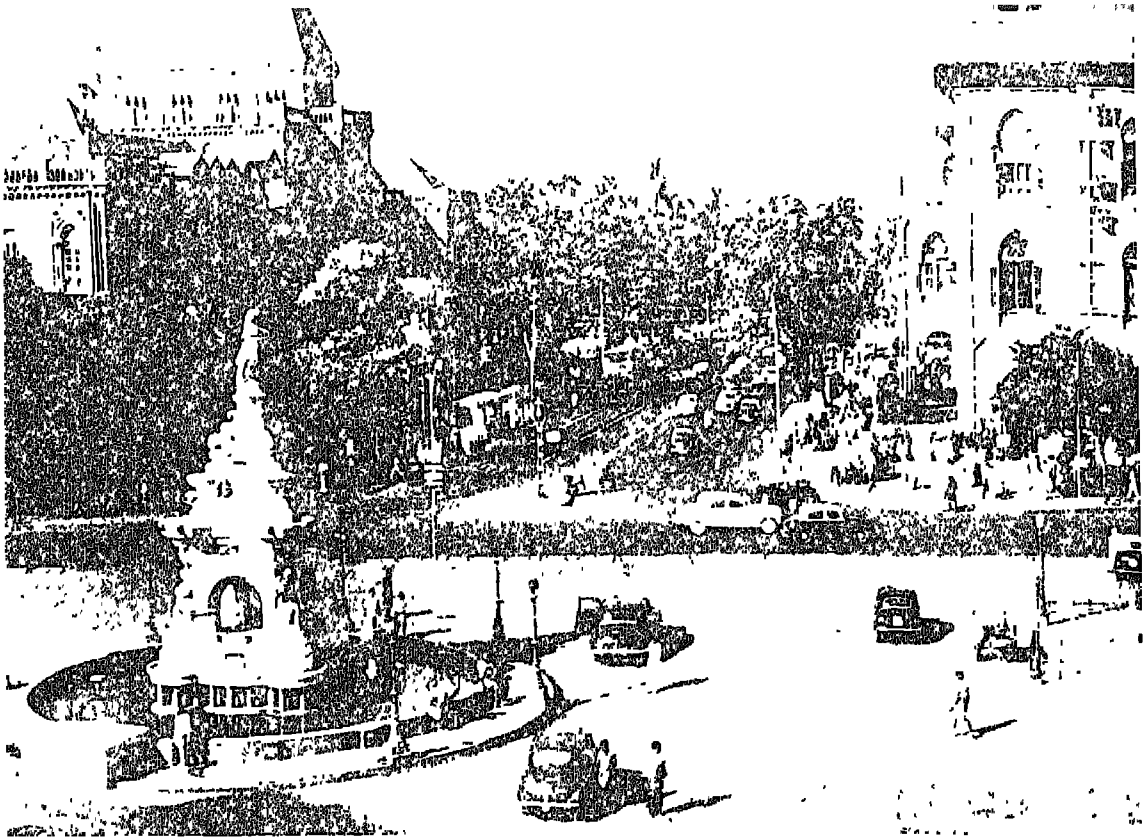
To the east of the Western Ghats is the plateau. It is hot during summer and cool during winter. The plateau has many rivers—the Tapti, Godavari, Krishna, Bhima and Wardha. You can find these rivers on the map. The rivers make the soil of the plateau fertile for growing cotton, oil seeds and sugarcane. Farmers near the coastal areas grow plenty of paddy. Mango, banana and coconut are also grown. Thousands of people catch fish in the sea and the rivers.

The people of Maharashtra are very hardworking. They eat rice, wheat *chapatis*, pulses, vegetables and curd. Some people eat fish and meat too. They dress very simply. *Dhoti*, *Kurta* and cap are most popular. Maharashtra farmers wear a special type of turban. Old people like to wear long cotton *angarkha*. The women wear *saree* and blouse. Note the way this woman has put on her *saree*. It is quite different from the way women put on sarees in other states. Maharashtra women are very hardworking. They work shoulder to shoulder with men in fields and factories.

The main language of the people is Marathi. It is written in Devanagari Script. Many people speak Hindi.

Bombay is the capital of





A street scene in Bombay

Maharashtra State. It is a very big city. It has wide roads and tall buildings. There are a number of interesting places in Bombay. 'Gateway of India' is one of them. It is a big gate built on the sea-shore. Tourists visit this place and go to the Elephanta caves from here by motor boat. The Hanging Gardens, Marine Drive, Zoo, Museum and Aquarium are some of the other places of interest in Bombay.

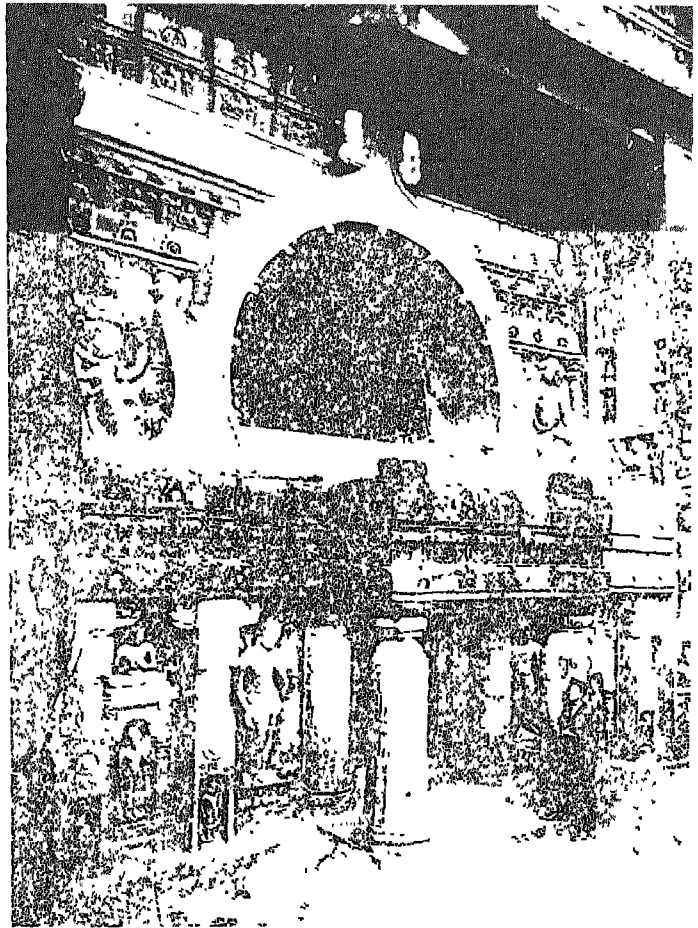
At all hours of the day electric trains and buses take people in and out of the city. Bombay has a very big airport at Santa Cruz. From here you can fly to any part of India and the world. Bombay also has a good harbour. Ships from Indian ports and other countries call here almost every day.

Bombay is a big industrial city. It is one of the biggest centres of the textile industry. Trombay has oil refineries and the Bhabha Atomic Energy Establishment. There are a number of film studios in Bombay. It is the chief centre for making films.

Pimpri has a factory for making Penicillin. Sholapur is known for textile mills. Nagpur is known for oranges. Have you tasted the oranges of Nagpur?

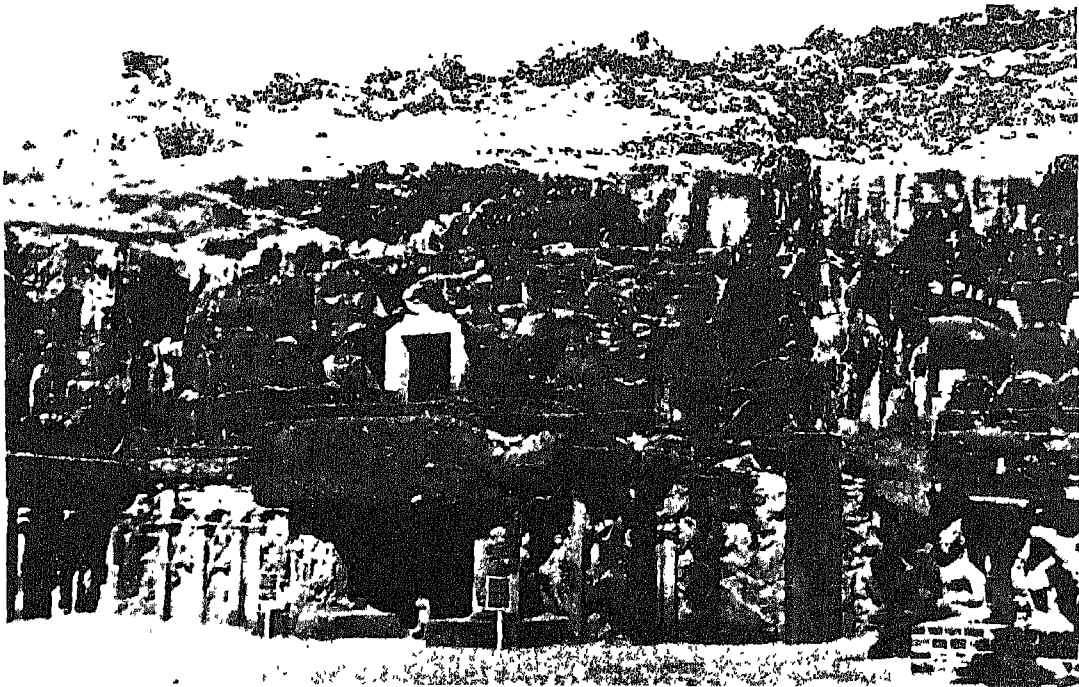
Maharashtra has many holy places. Nasik is known for its temples and bathing *ghats* on the bank of the Godavari.

Poona is an important city of Maharashtra. It is a beautiful city



Ajanta Caves

Ellora Caves



surrounded by hills. Mahabaleshwar is a well-known hill station. It has a beautiful lake and many gardens. Nandeo is the place of Guru Gobind Singh's *samadhi*. It is sacred to the Sikhs.

The famous 'Sevagram' village is near Wardha. In this village Mahatma Gandhi lived for many years and worked for the freedom of India. Gandhiji's hut, pen, watch, stick and books can be seen in Sevagram even today.

The Ajanta and Ellora caves near Aurangabad are very well known for their fine paintings and sculpture. Every year, thousands of tourists visit these caves.

GOA, DAMAN AND DIU

Find Goa, Daman and Diu on the map of India. Note, how small they are! These three together make a state of our country. It is a Union Territory.

Goa lies on the west coast of India along the Arabian Sea. Daman lies in the south of Gujarat near the sea coast. Diu is a small island near the south coast of Saurashtra.

Goa, Daman and Diu remained under Portuguese rule for more than four centuries. Even after India won her freedom from the British in 1947, the Portuguese did not make Goa free. Goa, Daman and Diu became free in 1961. Only a few lakhs of people live here. Panaji is the capital of Goa, Daman and Diu.

Goa is joined with other parts of the country by road, rail, air and sea. The road between Panaji and Belgaum is very fine. There is a regular train service between Poona and Vasco da Gama which is an important town of Goa. You can go from Bombay to Panaji by steamer. Marmagao is the sea port of Goa.

It is a good natural harbour.

Goa has some small rivers. They are used for taking people and goods from one place to another. New roads and bridges are being built there.

The people of Goa eat rice. Rice grown by them is not enough. They get some rice from other states of the country. Cashewnut, coconut, arecanut and mangoes are grown in plenty and sent to other places. Iron ore and manganese are also sent out to other states.

Many people in Goa catch fish from the sea. Some are employed in industries and business. New industries are being started in Goa. Goa has many beautiful and interesting places. The church of St. Francis Xavier is an important place to visit. It is near Panaji.

Panaji is a beautiful city. It has many buildings and parks. Margao is a big business centre of Goa. Vasco da Gama is another important town.

The people of Goa speak many languages. Konkani, Marathi, English and Portuguese are important. Hindi is also getting popular these days.

Christmas is one of the important festivals of the people of Goa.



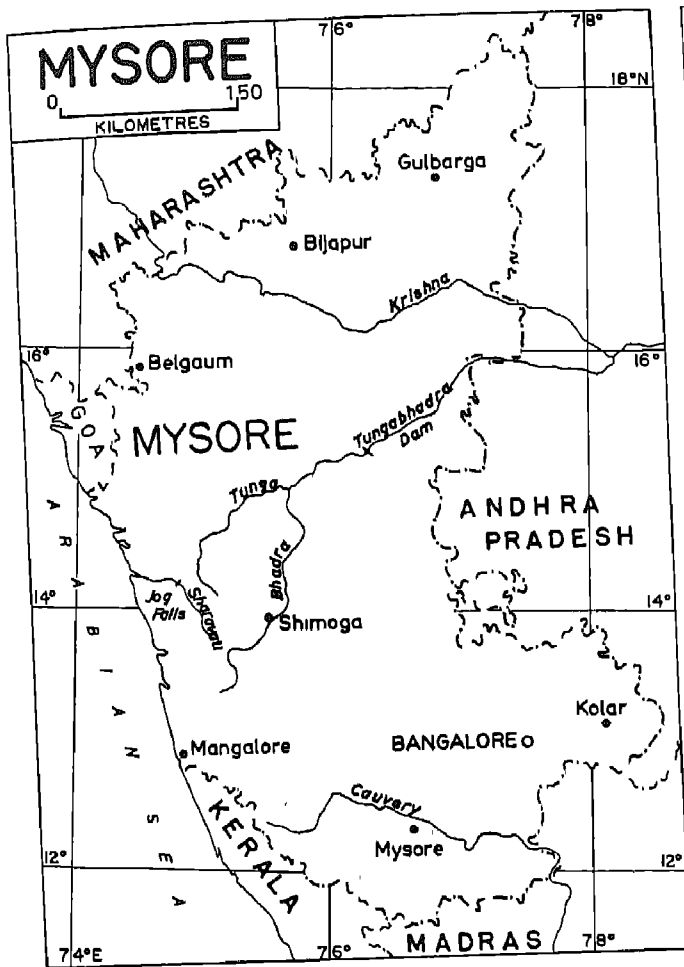
An inside view of St. Francis Xavier Church near Panaji

Answer these questions

1. What are the important occupations of the people of Maharashtra?
2. What are the main crops grown in Maharashtra and Goa?
3. Name a few major industries and important places of Bombay city.
4. Tell all the possible ways of reaching Goa from your state.
5. Why are the following famous:
 - a) Mahabaleshwar
 - b) Ajanta and Ellora
 - c) Poona
 - d) Sholapur
 - e) Sevagram
 - f) Bombay
 - g) Marmagao
 - h) Panaji.

Things to do

1. On the map of Maharashtra and Goa find the following:
 - a) The Godavari, the Krishna, the Wardha, the Bhima and the Tapti.
 - b) Poona, Bombay, Sevagram, Nasik, Nagpur, Panaji, Marmagao.
2. Request your teacher to tell you the story of Goa's freedom.



9. Mysore

MARY AND Kalyani are two young Indian girls. Mary lives in Bombay and Kalyani lives in Bangalore. They are on a visit to Goa. They happen to meet each other in Panaji.

This is Kalyani's second visit to Goa. She has visited Bombay also. She knows many things about Goa and Maharashtra. You have also read a lot about these states.

Bangalore is the capital of Mysore State. Mary has never been to Bangalore. She knows little about Mysore. Do you

know something about Mysore state and its people? Perhaps not much. Let us then listen to Mary and Kalyani.

MARY : It is very pleasant here in Goa. Isn't it?

KALYANI : Yes, it is. But it is even more pleasant in Mysore.

MARY : Do you come from Mysore?

KALYANI : Yes, and you come from Maharashtra. Don't you?

MARY : Yes, I do. But we are all Indians. I know very little about your state. Will you tell me something about Mysore?

KALYANI : I'll be happy to do that. Here is a map of Mysore State. Let us look at the map. Can you read the names of the neighbouring states of Mysore?

MARY : Well, they are Kerala, Madras, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and Goa.

KALYANI : Do you find anything common between Mysore and Maharashtra?

MARY : Well, looking at the map I find that, like Maharashtra, Mysore also lies along the Arabian Sea.

KALYANI : It is quite true. Mysore has a long sea coast. It is very rich in fish. Thousands of people in Mysore earn their living by catching fish.

MARY : What do the farmers grow in Mysore?

KALYANI : In Mysore most people depend on farming for their living. They grow rice, *ragi*, sugarcane, cotton and oilseeds. Coffee, tobacco, arecanut, groundnut, grapes and coconut are also grown.

MARY : Do you get enough rains to grow so many crops?

KALYANI : Yes, we have enough rainfall. The farmers store the rain water in big tanks. They use this water for their crops.

MARY : Why don't they sink wells and tube-wells?

KALYANI : Perhaps you know that Mysore is a land of many ridges and hills. It is not easy and cheap to dig wells. But these days some farmers are using

pumping sets which work on electricity.

MARY : Do all villages in Mysore have electricity?

KALYANI : Not all, but most villages have electricity. Our state also supplies electricity to some of its neighbouring states. Tungabhadra Dam and Mahatma Gandhi Hydro-Electric Works are the main sources of electricity.

MARY : What does a village in Mysore look like?

KALYANI : Mysore villages are very neat and clean. Villages are linked with other villages and towns by roads. Houses are made of mud or stone. Generally there is a tank, a resting place, a temple and a school in each village.

MARY : In what language do you have your social studies lessons in school?

KALYANI : We have our social studies lessons in Kannada but I also study Hindi and English. Most of us speak Kannada. Some people speak Tamil and Telugu also.

MARY : What is the main food of the people in Mysore State?

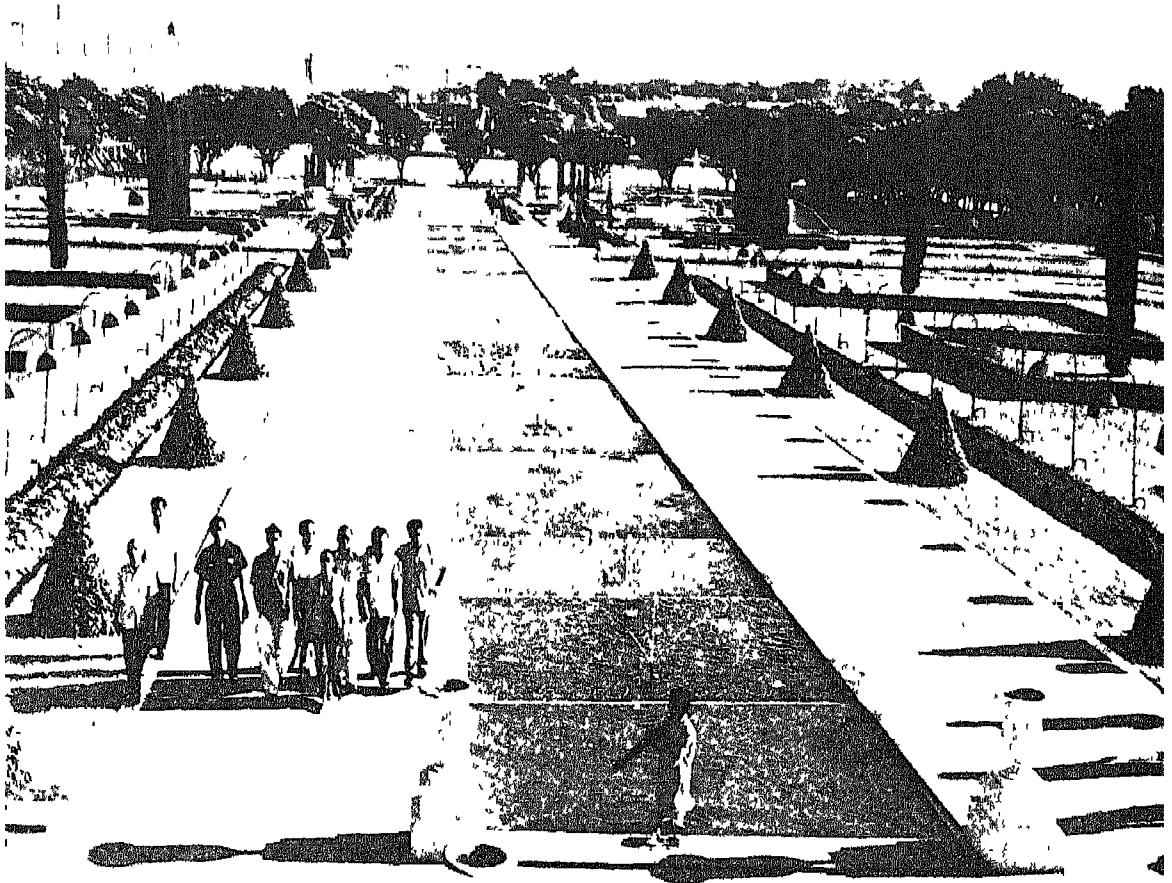
KALYANI : Most people eat rice and ragi. *Hittu* is our favourite pudding. We also like *dosai* and *idli*.

MARY : Don't you like to eat fish? You get so much of fish from ponds, rivers and the sea.

KALYANI : Oh, why not? We send a lot of fish to other parts of India also.

MARY : Is it true that Mysore grows a variety of flowers, fruits and vegetables?

KALYANI : Yes. There are a number of gardens and orchards in our state. Many people work in these orchards. We grow coffee, spices, grapes, oranges, bananas and vegetables. Lots of people visit the Brindavan Garden in Mysore city and the Lal Bagh in Bangalore.



Brindavan Garden, Mysore

- MARY : How do people dress in Mysore?
- KALYANI : The women wear a very tight sleeveless blouse called *kupsa*. They like to wear *kupsas* made of pure silk or silk and cotton mixed. Men wear cotton *dhoti*, *kurta*, and *angostra* over the shoulders. The turban makes a fine head dress. They call it *feta*.
- MARY : You have plenty of silk in your state. Don't you?
- KALYANI : Yes, in some parts, people plant mulberry trees to get silk.
- MARY : I know. Mysore handloom silk is very famous. My sister has many beautiful Mysore silk sarees.
- KALYANI : Not only silk. Mysore is known for other things also. It is the home of sandal trees. Mysore sandal-

wood soap, sandal oil, sandal-wood toys and *agarbatees* are also popular. We also make beautiful objects of ivory. A large number of people work in these cottage industries.

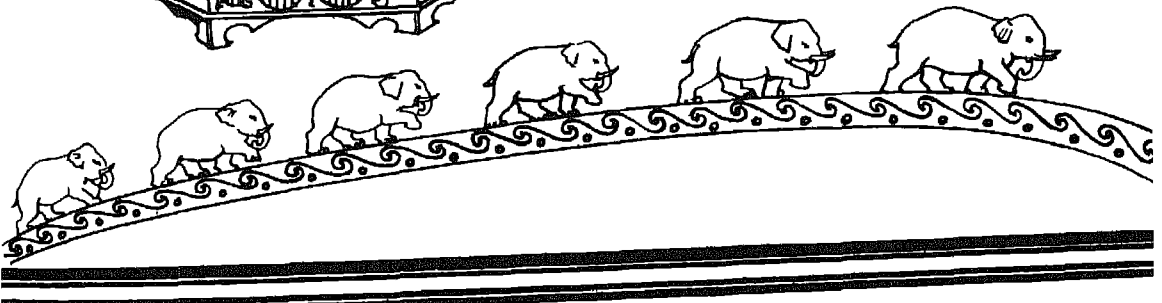
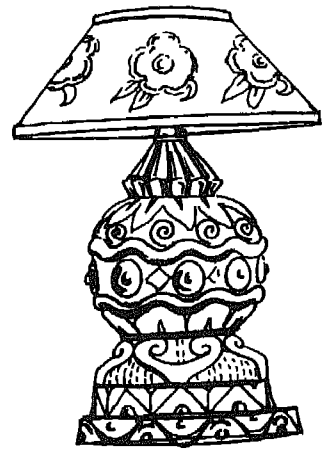
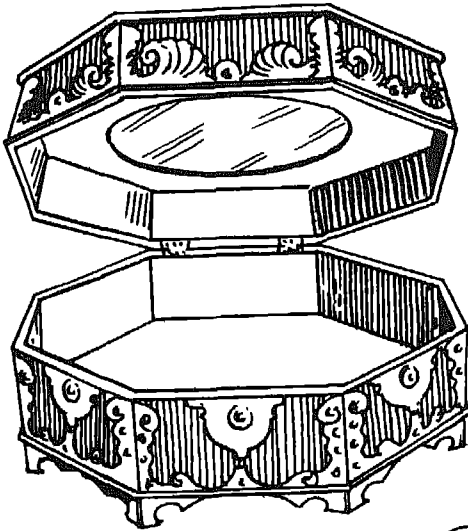
We also have many big factories like the Indian Telephones, the Hindustan Machine Tools and the Indian Aircrafts Industries of Bangalore. Thousands of people work in these factories. They come from different states of India. Many come from other countries. They live in Bangalore. It is a very clean and beautiful city

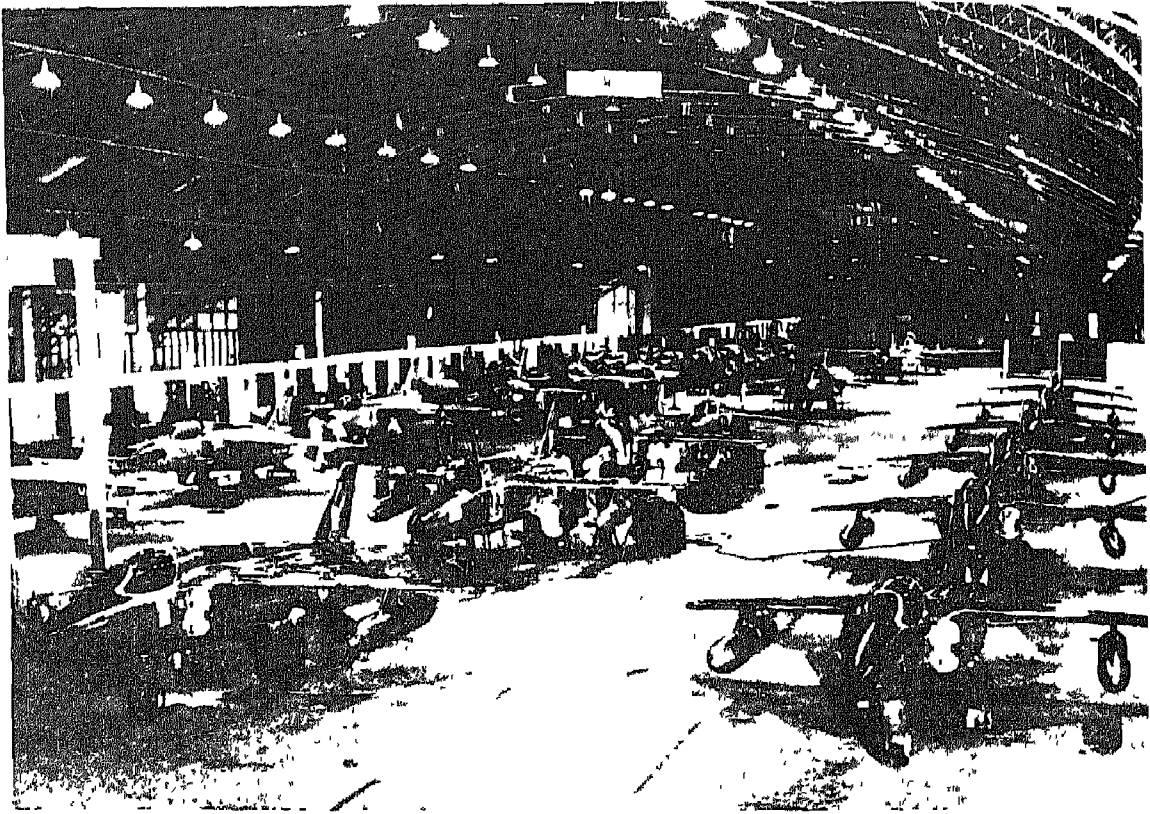
MARY : I would love to see Bangalore and other parts of Mysore State.

KALYANI : You are always welcome. Write to me when you decide to visit us.

MARY : What is the best time to visit Mysore?

Mysore handicrafts





Hindustan Aircraft Factory, Bangalore

- KALYANI : Well, Mysore is at its best at the time of *Dasehra*. It is the most famous and colourful festival of our state. You can visit places before or after seeing *Dasehra* at Mysore. There is a gold mine at Kolar near Bangalore. From Bangalore it takes only a few hours to go to Kolar by bus. Kolar gold mines are one of the deepest mines in the world.
- MARY : Thank you very much for telling me so much about your state.

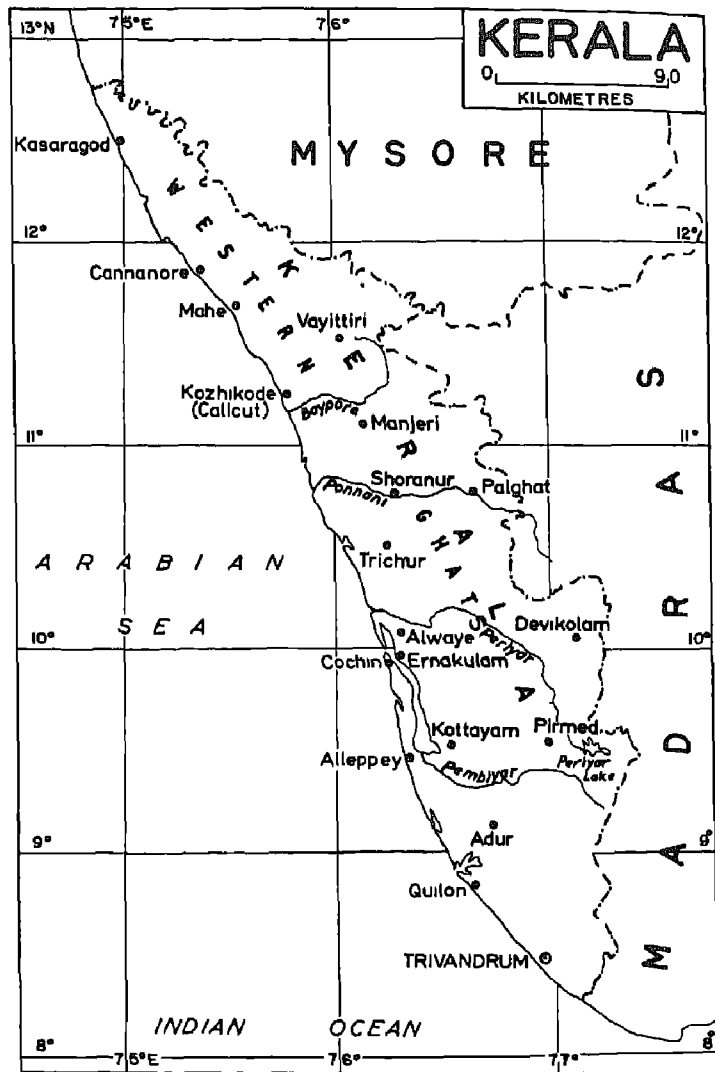
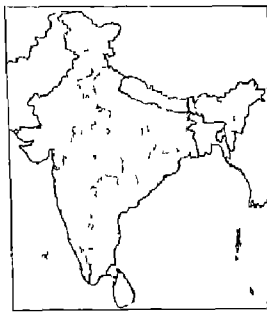
Answer these questions

1. What are the occupations of the people of Mysore state?
2. Name the chief crops grown in Mysore State.

3. How do Mysore farmers water their crops? Why do they do it in this way?
4. Name four things Mysore is known for.
5. Fill in the following blanks :
 - a) Mysore sandal-wood and _____ are very famous.
 - b) It is best to visit Mysore at _____
 - c) Kolar Gold Mines are one of the _____ mines in the world.
 - d) Coastal people of Mysore are very fond of eating _____
 - e) Mysore State supplies _____ and _____ to other states.

Things to do

1. Collect some pictures of the *Dasehra* festival, Brindavan Garden, Chamundi Hill and some industries.
2. Dramatise the talk between Mary and Kalyani.



10. Kerala

KERALA is one of the smallest states of India. It lies along the Arabian Sea in the far south of our country. The whole state looks green. Its sea coast, lakes, hills, green trees and fields make it look very beautiful.

In reply to my letter a boy from Kerala has written for you a long letter describing his life. From his letter you will be able to



A view of a lagoon

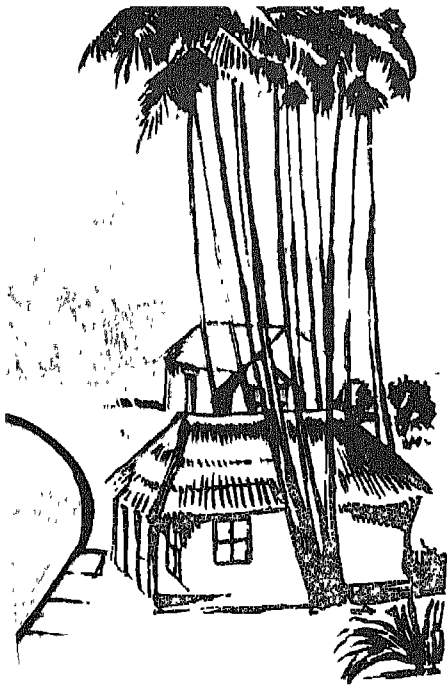
see the difference between your way of life and his. Let us read the letter.

Dear friends,

My name is Krishnan Nair. I speak Malayalam. I live in Kerala—the land of coconuts. It lies between the mountains of the Western Ghats and the Arabian Sea. It has a long sea coast. Along the coast from Cochin to Trivandrum, you will see water collected at many places. These pools of water look like lakes. In fact these are back-waters of the sea and are known as lagoons. Canals connect these lagoons to one another. Different parts of the state are connected through a chain of lagoons and canals. Boats ply in these waterways and carry people and goods from one place to another.

The water of the lagoons is saltish. It cannot be used for drinking. But these lagoons are very useful for us. Lots of fish are found in them. Many people earn their living by catching fish and selling it in the market. They use a special kind of net to catch fish. This net is known as Chinese net. I am sending you a picture which shows some people fishing.

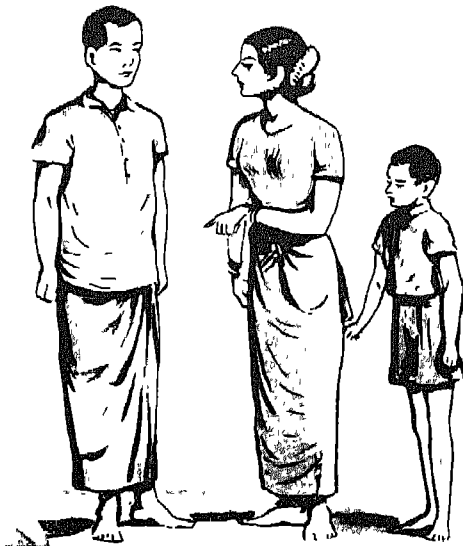
On either side of the lagoon there are rows of coconut trees. My house is also situated near a grove of coconut trees. It is



a mud house. It has a sloping thatched roof made of coconut leaves. There is a verandah in the house. We use a part of the verandah as a kitchen. In the courtyard we have grown a *tulsi* plant and banana trees. Most houses in Kerala look like this one.

My house is small. But we always keep it neat and clean. We like to sit on the floor to take our food. At night we spread a mat on the floor and sleep in the verandah. It is very pleasant to lie on the cool floor, when it is hot. Perhaps you know that it is generally hot in Kerala.

A typical home with thatched roof We like to keep ourselves clean. Most of the people bathe twice a day. While taking bath we also wash our clothes. We love to wear white clothes. My mother wears a white *saree* and a white blouse. Sometimes she wears a coloured *saree*. She is not very fond of ornaments. She always likes to put flowers round her hair. My father wears a small *lungi*-type *dhoti*. We call it *mundu*. He wears *dhoti* and *kurta*, when he goes to town. I put on a shirt and shorts. I am sending you a picture of my family which also shows our dresses. In what way is your dress different from ours?



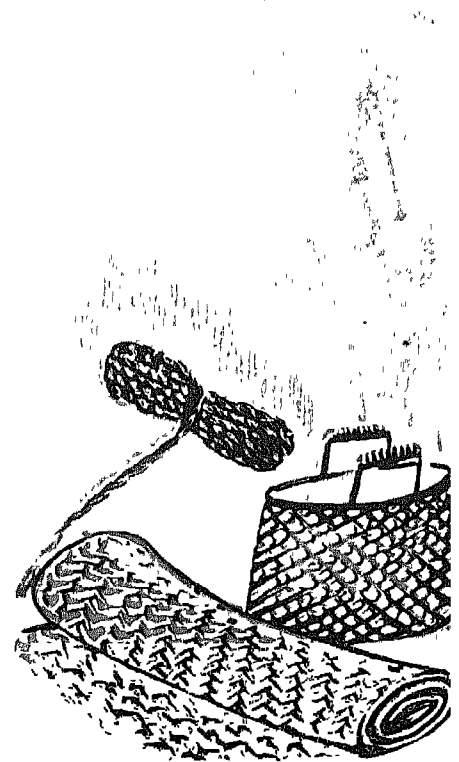
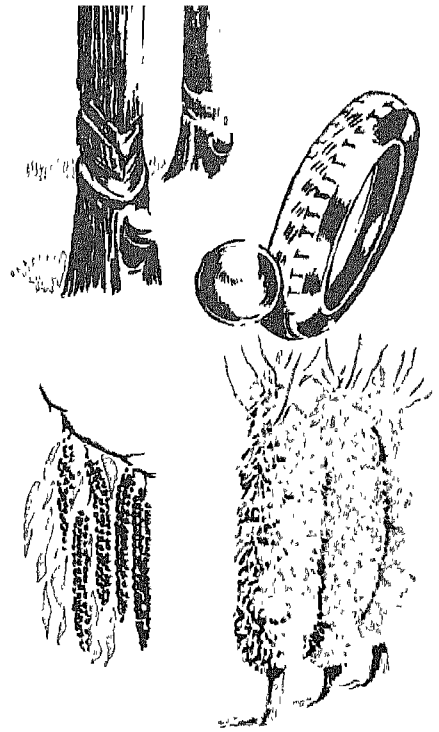
Every morning I take a bath, eat breakfast and go to school. My brothers and sisters also go to school. There we also learn Hindi. At home, my mother and elder sister cook *bhat*, *sambhar*, *rasam*, *idli*, *dosai* and other items of food. When I come back from school, I wash and get ready for lunch. My mother serves fish, rice and other things for me on a

banana leaf. I like to eat all these foods. We use coconut in our food in many ways. We fry fish in coconut oil. Sometimes my mother prepares a pudding out of coconut milk, rice and nuts. This pudding is very tasty. We call it *paisam*. Sometimes after the meal I eat a mango. Mangoes are grown in plenty in our gardens. We eat bananas cooked in many ways. Ripe bananas cooked in steam taste delicious. We drink boiled water. I like to drink *neera*. We get it from palm trees.

Most people in our state grow rice. They need a lot of water for growing rice. There is plenty of rain water in Kerala because it rains almost all the year round.

There are gardens of pepper, cardamom, clove, ginger, and cashewnut near my village. My uncle works in a cashewnut garden. Many other people work in these gardens. The products of these gardens are sent to other parts of our country. They are also sent to other countries.

There are rubber plantations in our state. Cuts are made on the stem of the rubber tree with a knife. A milky white sap begins to flow out of the cuts slowly. This sap is collected and sent to factories for making rubber. Thousands of people work in rubber factories. You use many things made of rubber. Can you name them? The Government has recently started paper and fertilizer factories in our state.

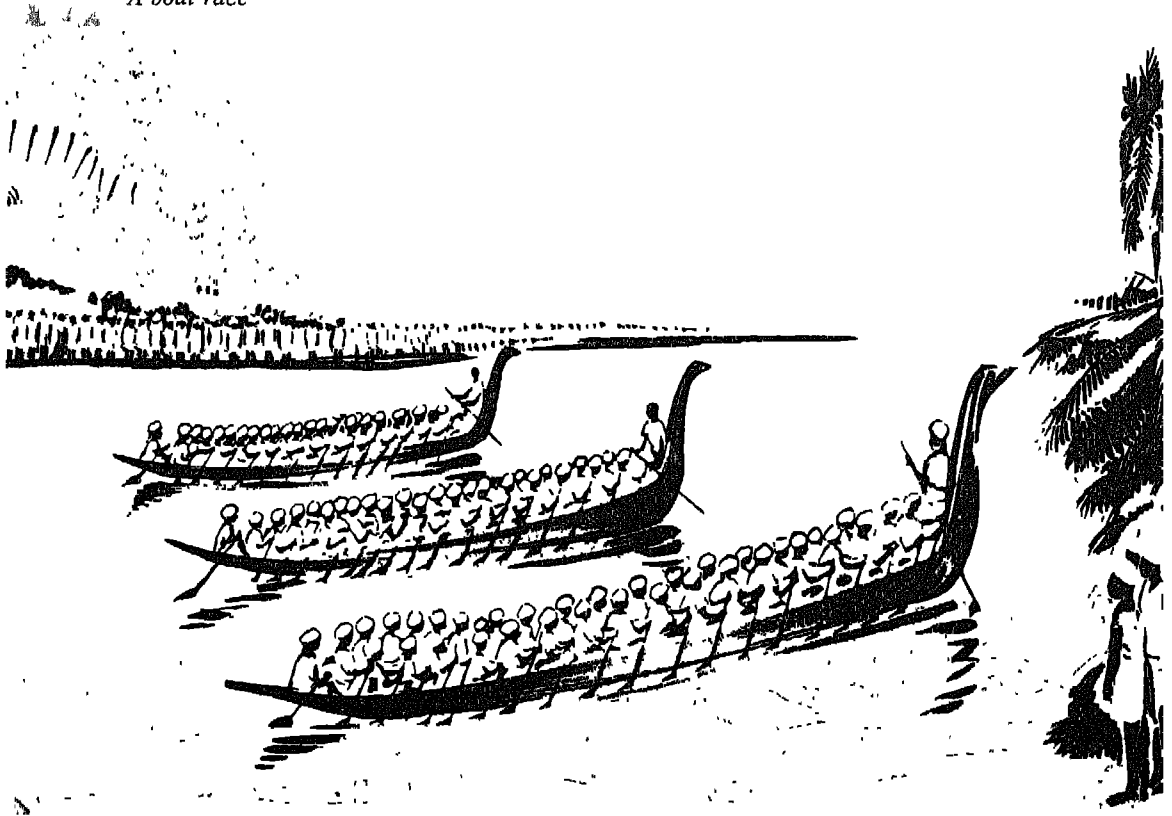


Kerala is also known as the home of coconuts. Coconuts grow in plenty here. Green as well as dry coconuts are sent out from here to all parts of the country. It is possible that the coconuts you buy from your market were sent from our state. Mats, ropes and baskets are made from the coconut fibre, known as coir. Now coir mattings are made in factories. The coir industry is the means of livelihood for many people in our state.

Our state capital, Trivandrum is situated on a hill on the sea-shore. It has many big and beautiful buildings. Thousands of people work in the offices in Trivandrum. The Art Gallery, the Museum and the Zoo are worth seeing.

Like you, we also celebrate many festivals. *Onam* is our most important festival. *Onam* celebrations continue for many days. My younger brothers, sisters and I collect flowers for the celebration. We plaster the outside courtyard in front of our home with cow-dung to worship the goddess of wealth. My sisters make beautiful *rangoli* with flowers.

A boat-race



On the main *Onam* day, we put on our best clothes and go to see the boat-race. A very large number of snake-shaped boats packed with people take part in the race. Thousands of people stand on the shores of the lagoons to watch the boat-race. It is wonderful to watch these boats. In the evening my sisters join other girls in a dance. We celebrate *Dasehra* also. On this day we worship Saraswati, the Goddess of Knowledge. At some places people worship snakes. Christmas is another important festival of Kerala.



A Kathakali dancer

We love dance and music. Our folk songs speak of the beauties of nature. You must have heard about our famous dance—*Kathakali*. The dancers wear masks while performing *Kathakali*.

Please let me know when you would like to visit Kerala.

Yours sincerely,
Krishnan Nair.

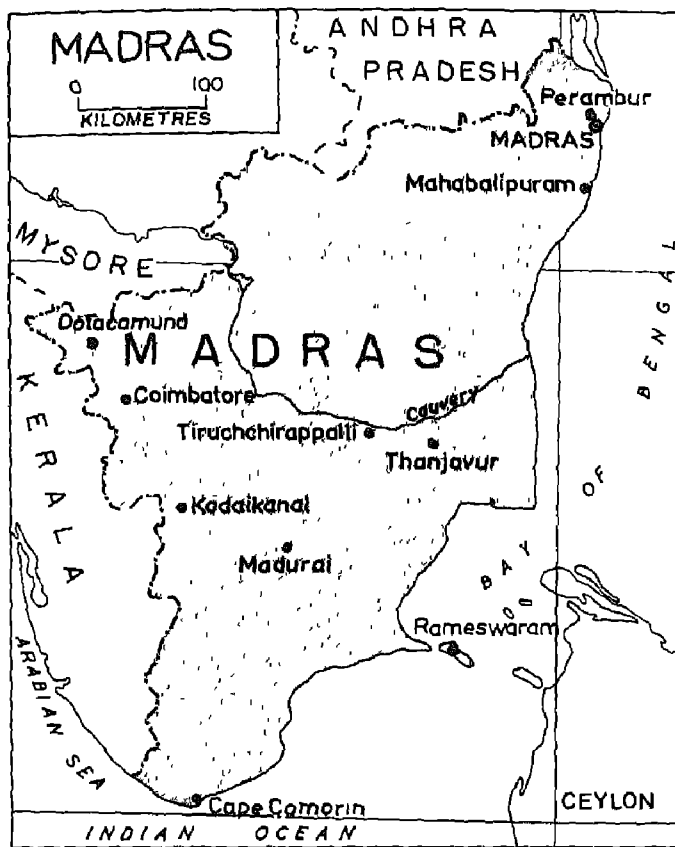
Answer these questions

1. Why is Kerala called the 'land of coconuts'?
2. What is a lagoon? How are lagoons useful to the people of Kerala?
3. What type of houses are seen in Kerala?
4. What are the main occupations of the people of Kerala?

5. Below are given some statements which may be true either for Kerala or for Jammu and Kashmir or for both. In the space on the left side, write (J) against the statement which is true for Jammu and Kashmir, (K) against the statement true for Kerala and (J&K) for those which are true for both.
- _____ There are sweet water lakes here.
 - _____ It is the home of coconuts.
 - _____ Apples and cherries grow here.
 - _____ Here the mountains are covered with snow.
 - _____ Many people catch fish for their living.
 - _____ People eat bananas and its different preparations.
 - _____ Beautiful natural scenery is found here.

Things to do

1. Collect some pictures about the life of the people in Kerala.
2. Make a ground model of Kerala showing the lagoons and the canals which link them. Also show the sources from which canals and lagoons get water.



11. Madras

GANESHAN LIVES in Madras city. He is about ten years old. His sister, Lakshmi, is only eight. She has long dark hair and shining black eyes. She looks nice in her long skirt and coloured petticoat called *pavadai*. Ganeshan wears a shirt and shorts. Their father puts on a shirt and white *dhoti*. Their mother wears dark-coloured cotton or silk *sarees*.

Lakshmi and Ganeshan go to a primary school. They have their lessons in their mother tongue, Tamil.

Ganeshan and Lakshmi take coffee and eat *idli*, *dosai* or *upma* for breakfast. *Idli* and *dosai* are made from rice and pulses. They are very tasty. They are eaten with coconut *chutney* and

sambhar. Ganeshan and Lakshmi eat boiled rice, *sambhar*, *rasam*, butter-milk and banana for lunch. People in Madras love these foods. They are also very fond of coffee.

Now look at the above map. It shows Madras with its neighbouring states Kerala, Mysore and Andhra Pradesh. On the map of India, you will see that Madras State lies along the Bay of Bengal in the far south. Cape Comorin in the extreme south of India is the land's end. It is also called Kanya Kumari. It lies on the sea coast where the Arabian Sea, the Indian Ocean and the Bay of Bengal meet. Can you find Cape Comorin on the map?

Madras State has a long sea coast. The state capital, Madras is on the sea coast. Ganeshan and Lakshmi like Madras city very much. It is a big beautiful city with tall buildings and wide roads. It has the longest sea beach in India. Many people spend their evenings on the beach. Ganeshan and Lakshmi love to

Women pounding paddy



walk on the sand and watch the rising waves of the sea at Marina.

It is generally warm in Madras throughout the year. It gets more rain in winter than in summer. People wear cotton clothes most of the time.

Ganeshan's grandparents live in a village near Thanjavur. The village is situated on the bank of the Cauvery River. Ganeshan and Lakshmi go to meet their grandparents once or twice a year. They live in a house made of mud and bricks. Many people in the village live in thatched houses made of palm leaves and bamboos.

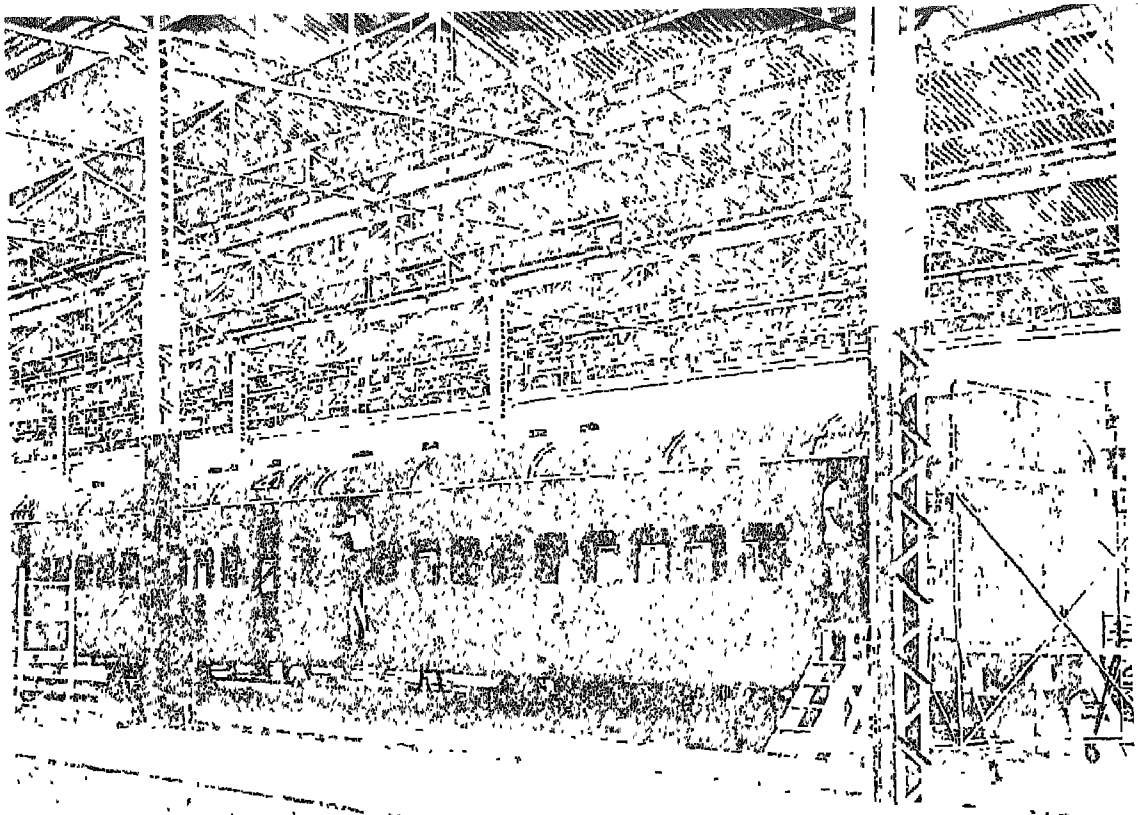
Most of the people in Madras State live in villages. Most of the villagers are farmers. Paddy is their main crop. They also grow *jowar*, oilseeds, cotton, sugarcane, tobacco and groundnut. Banana, coconut and mangoes are grown in plenty. Now grapes are also grown in some places. Farmers store rain-water in tanks to water their crops. Do you know why? Wells are also used for irrigation at some places.

The coconut is the most important tree of Madras State. We find large plantations of coconut trees near the sea coast. The coconut is used in many ways. People eat the fresh kernel and use *copra* (dried coconut) for getting oil. The coconut fibre is used in the coir, mat and brush industries.

Many people in coastal areas catch fish for their living. Now they also use machine-boats for fishing.

Ganeshan's father works in the Integral Coach Factory at Perambur. Railway coaches are made there. The Neyveli is a very big industrial centre of Madras State. Thousands of people work in these industries. Many of these workers have come from other states of India.

Ganeshan and Laxmi have been to many important places in Madras State. They have seen the temples of Mahabalipuram many times. They have also visited the famous Meenakashi Temple of Madurai and the Shiva Temples of Thanjavur and Rameshwaram. Last month they visited the well-known Sri-



A view of Perambur Coach Factory

rangam Temple near Tiruchirapalli.

Next summer, Ganeshan's father will take the family to Kodaikanal or Ootacamund. These are the two important hill stations of Madras State. Ooty is another name for Ootacamund. It lies on the Nilgiri hills and looks like a big park. You can see tea gardens on its higher slopes and coffee gardens on the lower slopes.

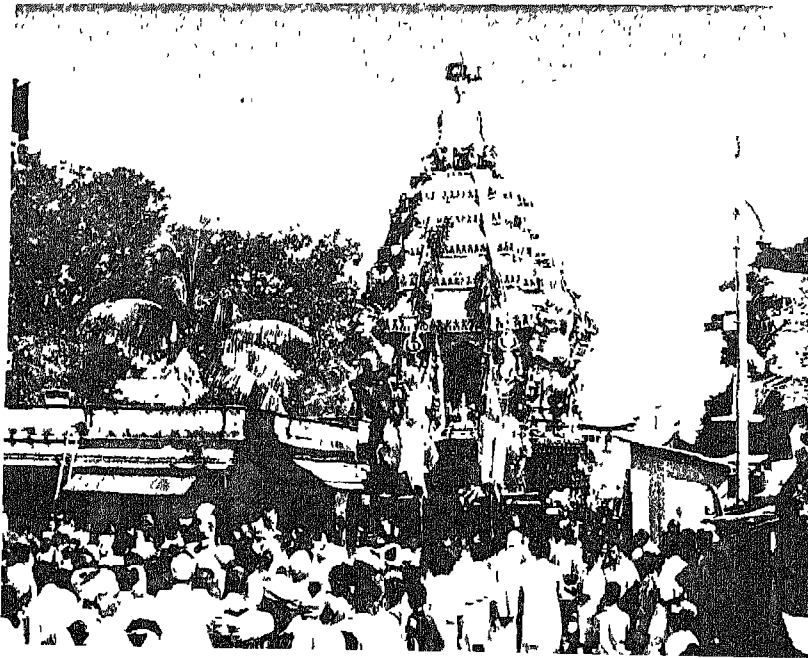
Pongal is the most important festival of Madras State. It is a harvest festival and is celebrated for three days. The farmers repair and whitewash their houses. Men, women and children wear new clothes, dance and enjoy themselves. They prepare a special dish with rice, milk and sugarcane juice. It is known as *Pongal*. Cows and bullocks are painted in many colours. On the third day in the evening, all the cattle are taken out in a procession to the beat of drums. Ganeshan and Lakshmi love taking part in *Pongal* celebrations in the village.



Shore Temple, Mahabalipuram

Navratri, Dipawali, Id and Christmas are other festivals celebrated in Madras. The *Bharata Natyam* dance of Madras is known all over India and even outside our country.

Pongal celebrations at Madras



A Bharat Natyam dancer

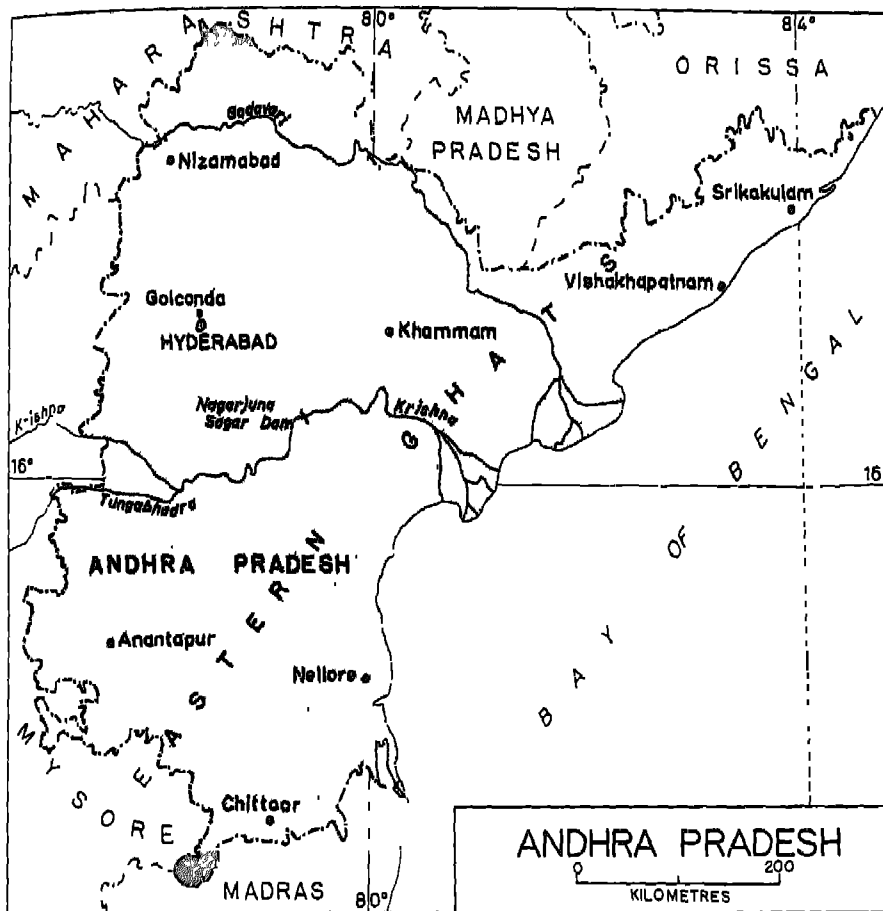


Answer these questions

1. What are the important occupations of the people of Madras State?
2. Why is Madras called 'a land of temples'? Name a few important temples of this state.
3. What are the important crops and fruits grown in Madras? Why is coconut so important for the people of Madras?
4. What places in Madras would you like to visit? Why?
5. Complete these statements :
 - a) The land's end of India in the south is _____
 - b) The most famous dance of Madras is _____
 - c) The most famous festival of Madras is _____
 - d) The big industrial centre of Madras is _____

Things to do

1. Find the following on the map of Madras :
Madras, Ootacamund, Perambur, Kodaikanal, Mahabalipuram, Cape Comorin, the Cauvery, Tiruchirapalli, Thanjavur.
2. Imagine yourself to be a boy or a girl from Madras. Write a letter to your friend who lives in Kashmir telling him all you know about Madras State.



12. Andhra Pradesh

RAGHAVA REDDY is a boy of about twelve years. He lives with his parents in Delhi. His grandparents live in Nizamabad in Andhra Pradesh. Last month he visited his grandparents for the first time. He has learnt many things about his state. Here, he tells the story of his visit. Let us listen.

“I have just come back from a tour of Andhra Pradesh. I call it a tour, because I visited all the places of interest in the state.

Andhra Pradesh is one of the bigger states of our country. It is surrounded by Orissa, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra

in the north, Mysore in the west, Madras in the south and the Bay of Bengal in the east. The state has a long sea coast, but the major part of its area lies in the plateau region and the Eastern Ghats.

There are many rivers in Andhra Pradesh. They flow from the west to the east into the Bay of Bengal. The Godavari is the longest and the widest of all these rivers. The Krishna is another big river of the state. The delta regions of both these rivers are very fertile. Plenty of rice grows in this area. Some rice is sent to other states of the country. The Nagarjunasagar Dam is being built across the river Krishna. It will help to irrigate vast lands and produce electricity.

The Andhra rivers flow fast and get flooded during the rainy season. In other seasons, they have little water. So, people store water in tanks during the rainy season. Every village has a tank. Hyderabad, the state capital of Andhra Pradesh, has three or four such tanks. These are very big and are called *sagar*. Hussain Sagar of Hyderabad is one of the famous tanks.

My grandmother loves me very much. She prepared very tasty *dosai* and *idli* for my breakfast. I ate rice, sambhar and vegetables for lunch. She used *til* or groundnut oil for cooking. I liked the *papad*, *rasam* and mango pickle she gave me. One day we went to visit a relative in a village. They gave me *jowar chapati*, *chutney* and curried fish to eat.

I also went round the countryside. I saw trees of *neem*, *saal*, tamarind, mango, banana and grape vines. Most people of Andhra Pradesh are farmers. They grow rice, tobacco, sugarcane, *jowar*, groundnut, turmeric and chillies. They keep cows, buffaloes, sheep and goats. Women help men in the fields. In the coastal areas, people catch fish. They send dried fish to other parts of the country.

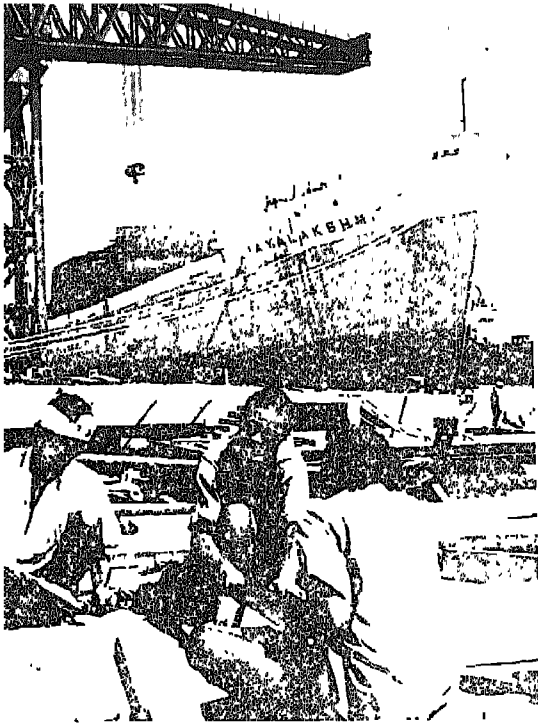
In Nizamabad I saw many tall buildings. Some of the houses have stone walls and tiled roofs. The women of Andhra put on colourful *sarees* and *cholis*. They wear flowers in their hair.



The girls look pretty in loose skirts and blouses. They like to deck themselves with ornaments. Men wear *dhoti* and *kurta*. In Hyderabad many people also put on *achkan* and *pyjama*.

One day a friend took me to a primary school. Boys were having their lessons in Telugu. Some boys were learning Hindi. Telugu is widely spoken in Andhra Pradesh. Many people speak Urdu, Tamil, Kannada, Marathi, Oriya and Hindi also.

During my tour of Andhra, I had a chance to visit Vishakhapatnam. It is a sea port. I saw the well known shipyard and the oil refinery at Vishakhapatnam. Hyderabad is known for its textile and tobacco factories. There my grandmother bought many wooden toys and a flower vase of *Bidri* work for me and some handloom *sarees* for my mother. We also visited the Charminar, the Golconda Fort and the Salar Jung Museum. My grandfather is a devotee of Lord Venketeshwar. He took me to visit the famous Venketeshwar Temple at Tirupati.

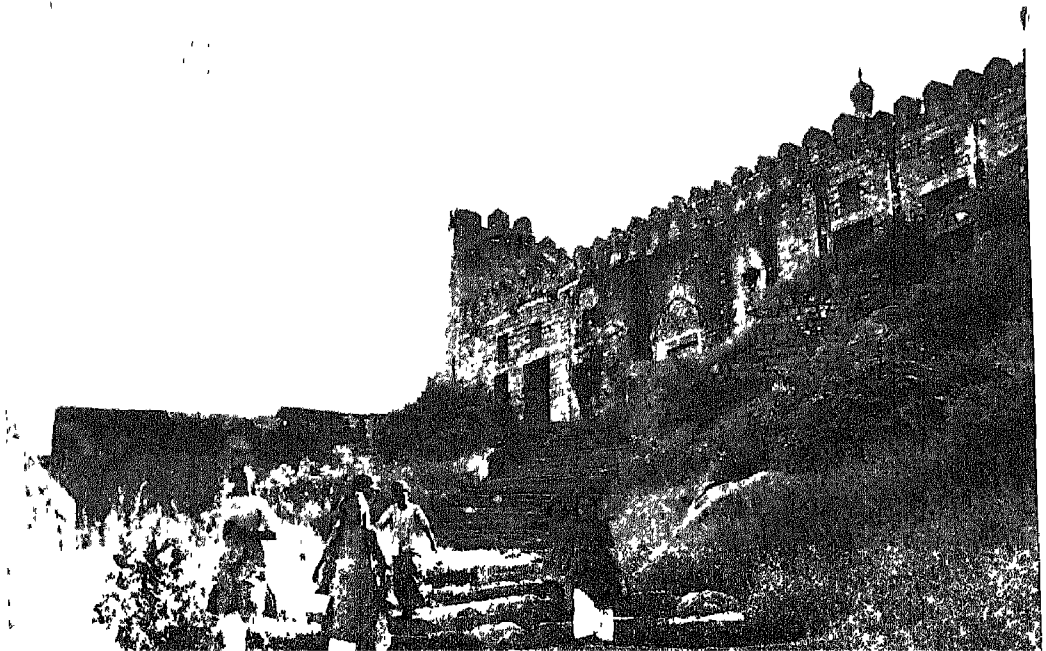


Jayalakshmi ship being finished at the Vishakhapatnam Shipyard

People of Andhra Pradesh celebrate many festivals. Of these *Dasehra*, *Diwali* and *Id* are the most important. People wear new clothes and eat tasty dishes on these festivals.

I enjoyed my visit to Andhra Pradesh. The journey was pleasant. All the big towns are joined by road or railways. My grandfather has promised to take me to the coal mines at Singareni, the mica mines at Nellore and the gold mines at Anantpur, when I go there again.

Golconda Fort

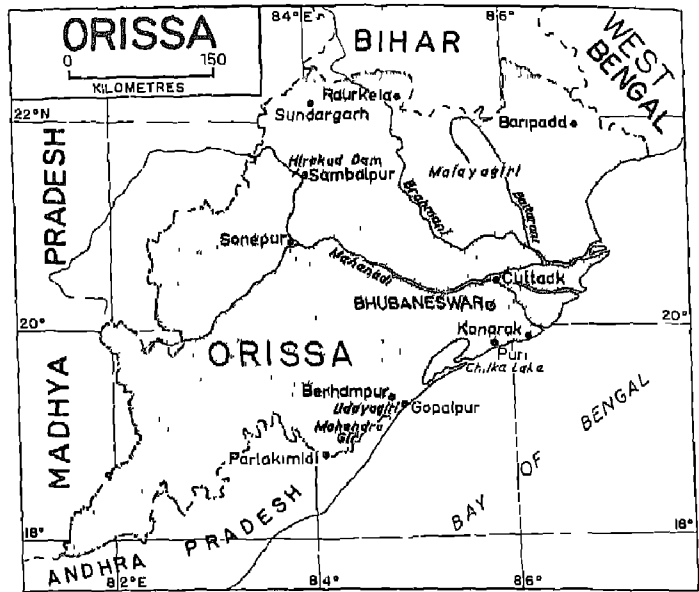
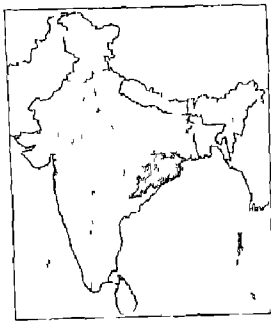


Answer these questions

1. What are the important occupations of the people of Andhra Pradesh?
2. Name a few important industries of Andhra.
3. Which part of Andhra Pradesh is most suitable for growing rice? Why?
4. Complete these statements :
 - a) The largest and the widest of all Andhra rivers is _____.
 - b) The state capital of Andhra Pradesh is _____.
 - c) The river valley project of Andhra Pradesh is _____.
 - d) The famous museum of Hyderabad is _____.
 - e) The ship-building yard is at _____.

Things to do

1. Find the following on the map of Andhra Pradesh :
The Godavari river, the Krishna river, Hyderabad, Vishakhapatnam.
2. Collect pictures of Charminar, Golconda Fort, Salar Jung Museum and Venketeshwar temple at Tirupati.



13. Orissa

LOOK AT the above map. This is our Orissa State. It lies on the east along the Bay of Bengal. The States of Bihar, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh surround it. The Bay of Bengal runs along the eastern boundary of the state.

The land surface is not the same at all places. In the west there are hills running from the north to the south. These are called the Eastern Ghats. The northern and the central parts comprise of a plateau.

There are several rivers in Orissa. Find these rivers on the map. Notice the Mahanadi river. It is the biggest river of the state. It flows through the Eastern Ghats to the south-east. The rivers have made small valleys as they flow through the hills and the plateau. These rivers form a delta before entering the Bay of Bengal. The delta region is a part of the eastern coastal plain and is very fertile. Mango, coconut and palm groves are found here.

Except for the river valley region the entire state, comprising

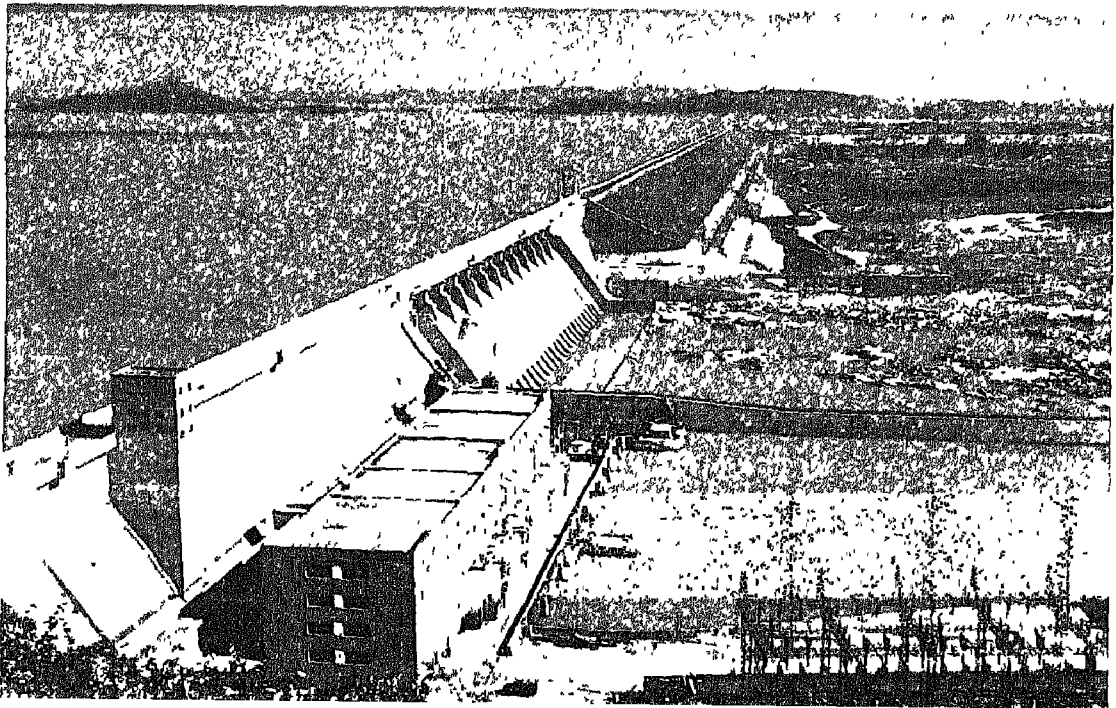
of the plateau and the Eastern Ghats, is covered with forests. Lac is an important forest product. We get it from *kusum*-trees. Elephants, wild buffaloes, panthers and *cheetas* are some of the wild animals found in these forests. It is hot in summer and cold in winter here.

The state gets most of its rains from June to September. Most of the people live in the valleys and work in the fields where rice and sweet potatoes are cultivated. In the coastal plains rice, millets and pulses are grown. Jute growing is also becoming popular now. The northern part of the plain is not fit for crops. Do you know why? The soil here is saline therefore the plants do not thrive well. Only plants like cane, brush-wood and reeds grow here.

Chilka lake is in this region. Its water is saline. It abounds in fish. Some people earn their living by catching fish from the lake and the sea.

As Orissa gets most of its rains during the rainy season, wells, tanks and canals are used for irrigation in other seasons. During rains the rivers often get flooded. Hirakud Dam across the

Hirakud Dam



Mahanadi is a very large dam. The water is used for irrigation and for producing electricity. This dam has also saved Orissa from floods.

Most of the people in Orissa live in villages. There are very few towns and cities. The houses have sloping roofs. Usually the houses are small but people keep them neat and clean.

The men put on *dhoti-kurta*. The women wear cotton *sarees*. They are fond of ornaments. People of Orissa love to eat rice with pulse or vegetables. Many people take meat and fish.

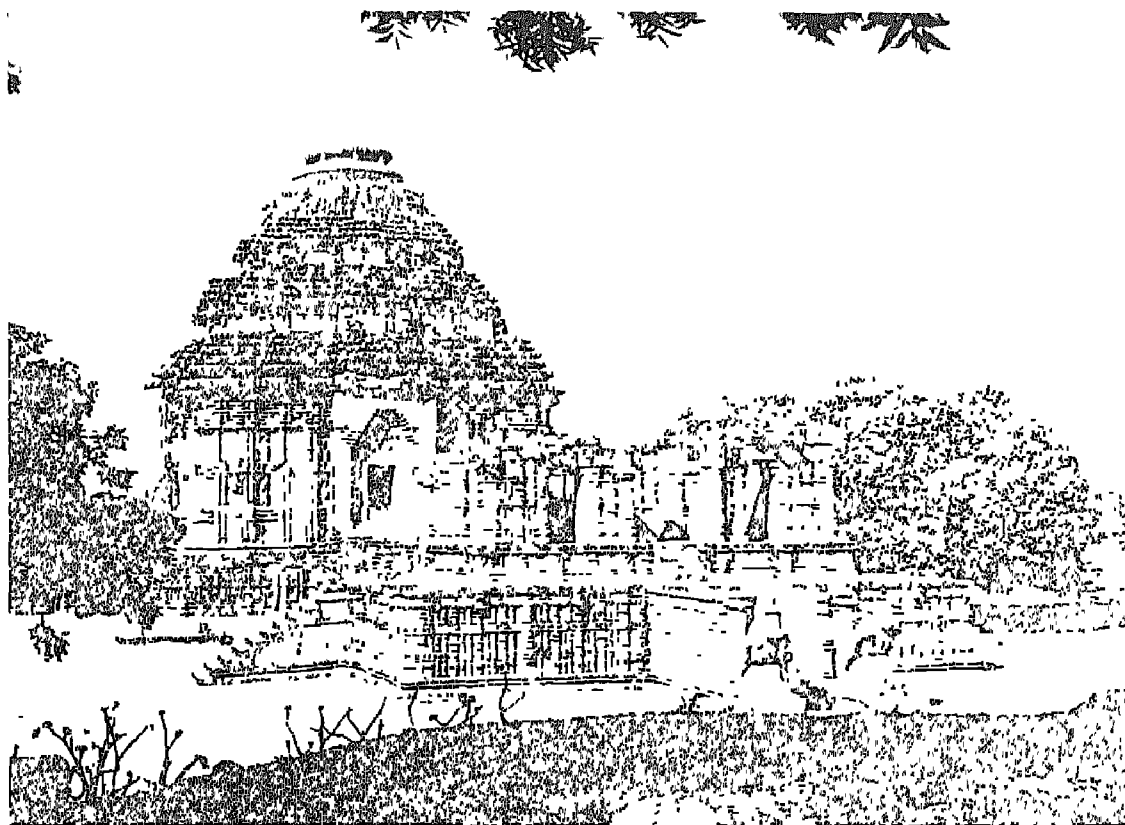
People of Orissa like those of other states are fond of music and dance. Their important festivals are *Rath Yatra*, *Raksha Bandhan*, *Dasehra* and *Diwali*.

Many tribal people live in Orissa. They work in fields and grow rice and sweet potatoes. Some live on hunting. Now many of them have found work in factories and mines. Men put on *dhoti*. They wear beads round their necks. Women wear cotton *sarees* and wear a number of ornaments such as ear and nose rings, large bunches of beads, necklaces, bracelets and anklets. They use flowers to adorn their hair. They love singing and dancing. Each tribe has its own language.

Bhubaneswar is located in the coastal plains. It is the capital

A view of Rath Yatra at Puri





Konark Temple

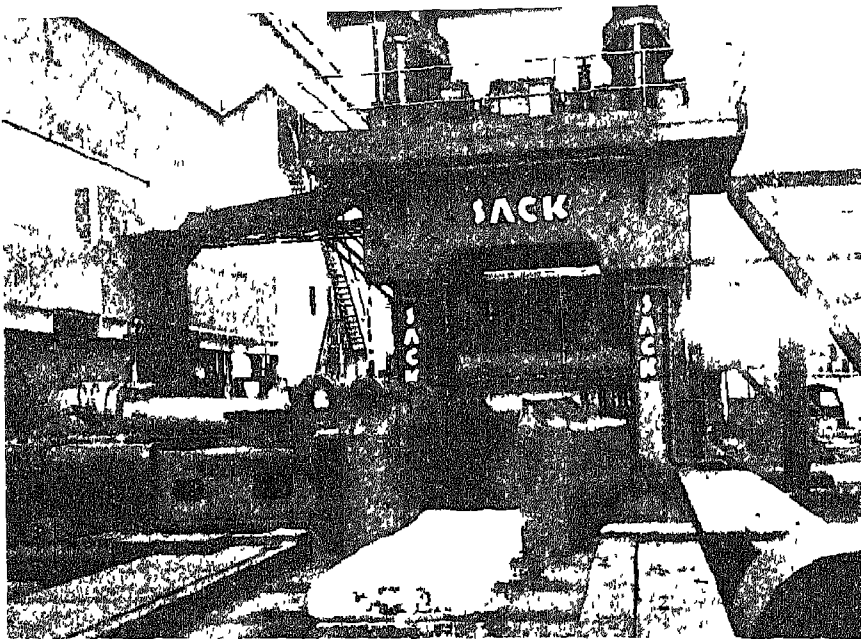
of Orissa. It is linked with Calcutta and Madras by road, rail and air. It has many old temples. The Lingaraj is the most famous temple.

The Udayagiri and Khandagiri hills are near Bhubaneswar. They have many natural and man-made caves.

Konark is famous for its Sun temple. It is located on the sea coast. Puri is a holy place and is known for the Jagan Nath temple. Its *Rath Yatra* is an important occasion. The idols of Lord Jagan Nath, Balbhadra and Subhadra are taken in a procession on wooden chariots.

Cuttack is another important town of the state. It is an old city and is known for its fine work on silver ornaments.

Orissa is rich in minerals. Iron, coal, manganese and bauxite are found in plenty. These minerals are used for making steel.



An inside view of the steel plant at Raurkela

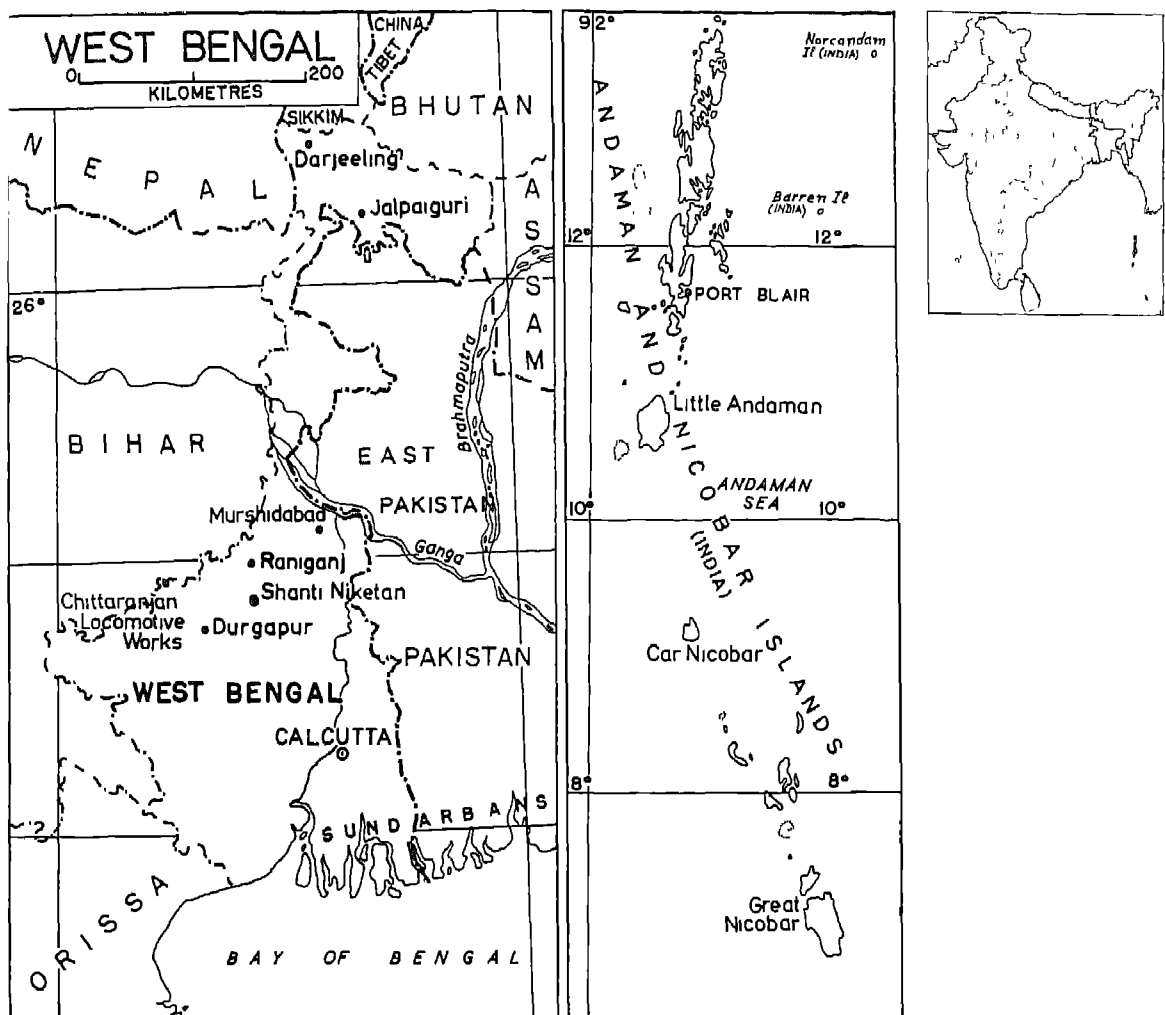
One of the biggest iron and steel works of our country is at Raurkela. Can you find Raurkela on the map?

Answer these questions

1. Name the states that surround Orissa State.
2. Why do most people live in the river valleys and the coastal plain?
3. What are the important crops of Orissa? Where are they grown?
4. Why is the northern part of Orissa not fit for crops?

Things to do

1. Show the following on the map of Orissa State :
 - a) Important rivers : the Mahanadi, the Brahmani and the Baitarni.
 - b) Chilka lake.
 - c) Important towns : Bhubaneswar, Cuttack, Puri, Raurkela, Gopalpur, Sambalpur.
2. Collect pictures of important religious places of Orissa.



14. West Bengal

WEST BENGAL is one of the smaller states of our country. It used to be much bigger than it is today. Look at the boundaries of West Bengal and East Pakistan on the map. These two together formed the state of Bengal before 1947. When India became free, Bengal was divided into two parts. The eastern part of the state became East Pakistan and forms a part of Pakistan. The portion

of Bengal which forms part of India came to be known as West Bengal.

In the different parts of this small state you will find a variety of natural scenery. The northern boundary of West Bengal touches Bhutan and Sikkim. The northern part lies in the Himalayas. It has a number of hills and narrow valleys. These hills and valleys are covered with forests where bamboo, pine and many other trees are found. Many wild animals live in these forests. Elephants, leopards and rhinoceros are common. Darjeeling lies in this hilly part. Find it on the map. Darjeeling is a beautiful hill station. Some people compare its beauty with that of Kashmir. Darjeeling is famous for its tea, and has many tea gardens.

The southern part of the state near the sea is known as the Delta Region. There are a number of small branches of rivers and lakes in this area. Much of the land in this area is marshy. Part of the Delta Region is covered by a thick forest known as Sundar Ban. There are tigers in this forest. We get many kinds of wood and other useful things from this forest. Many people work and earn their living in this area.

The remaining area of West Bengal is a low lying plain with many rivers and tanks. Almost every village or town is situated on the banks of a river or tank. From the map find the names of the rivers which flow through West Bengal. The important rivers are the Ganga, the Hooghly and the Damodar. These rivers have made the land very fertile. The main crops are rice and jute. Sugarcane, tobacco and pulses are also grown. A lot of water is needed for growing rice. There is plenty of rainfall. The farmers also use the water of the streams and rivers for irrigation. The Damodar valley and the Mayurakshi projects also supply water for irrigating fields.

Most of the people live in villages. Their life is very simple. Those who work in the rice fields put on *dhoti* up to the knees and hang a cloth across the shoulder to wipe off sweat. In every

village you will find small mud huts with thatched roofs, a small pond called *pukur*, a temple and some banana trees. Now some villages have electricity.

Let us now introduce you to a Bengali family which lives in a city. It is a large family. Several people live together in the family. They speak Bengali. They address the grandmother and the grandfather as *thakur maan* and *thakur dada*. Mother is called *maan* and father is called *baba*. *Baba* puts on a loose *dhoti* and *kurta*. *Maan* wears the *saree* in the Bengali style. A bunch of keys is tied to the end of the *saree* which falls on her shoulder. All her *sarees* have borders. *Maan* always uses vermilion between the parting of her hair on her head. This shows that she is married and her husband is alive. *Maan* prepares the food for her family.

A typical Bengal village home





Durga Puja celebration

Their main food is rice and fish. They eat many kinds of sweets. Among these, *sandesh* and *rasogollah* are well known. Now these sweets have become popular in all parts of the country. Have you tasted them?

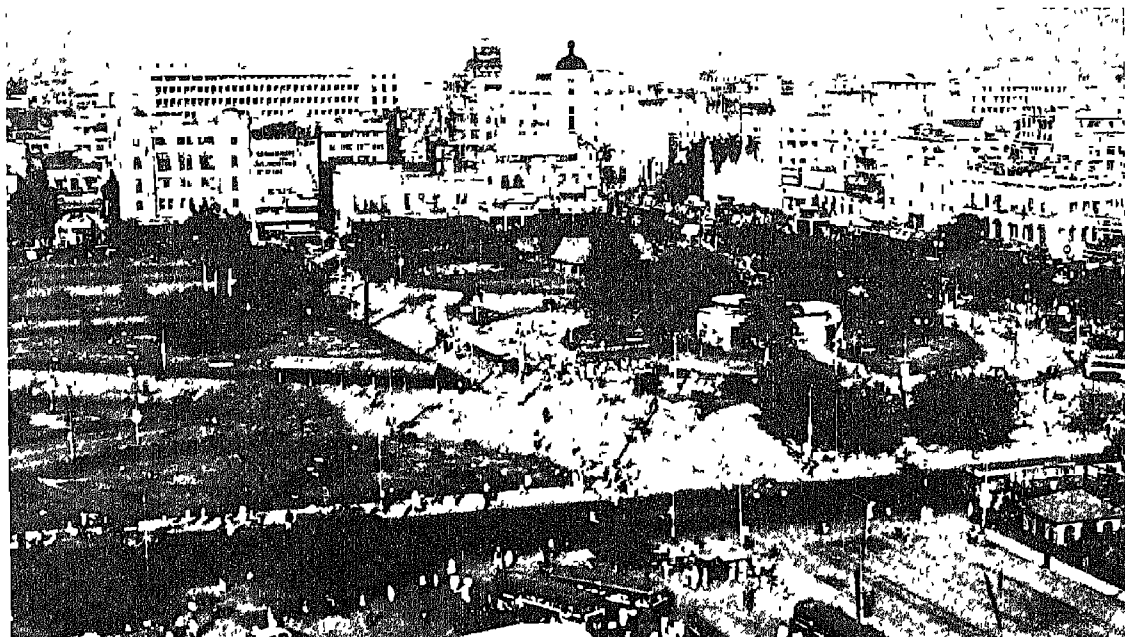
The people of West Bengal are very fond of singing and dancing. They celebrate many festivals such as *Saraswati Puja*, *Lakshmi Puja* and *Kali Puja*. *Durga Puja* is their biggest festival. It is celebrated for ten days. People are busy for many days making preparations for this festival. They whitewash their houses, make new clothes and prepare many different kinds of food. Women make special preparations for worshipping the goddess Durga. They go to Kalibari to worship. During the last four days of *Durga Puja* games, music and dramas are also organized. On the evening of the tenth day the goddess is taken out in a procession. After the procession the idol of the goddess is immersed in the river.

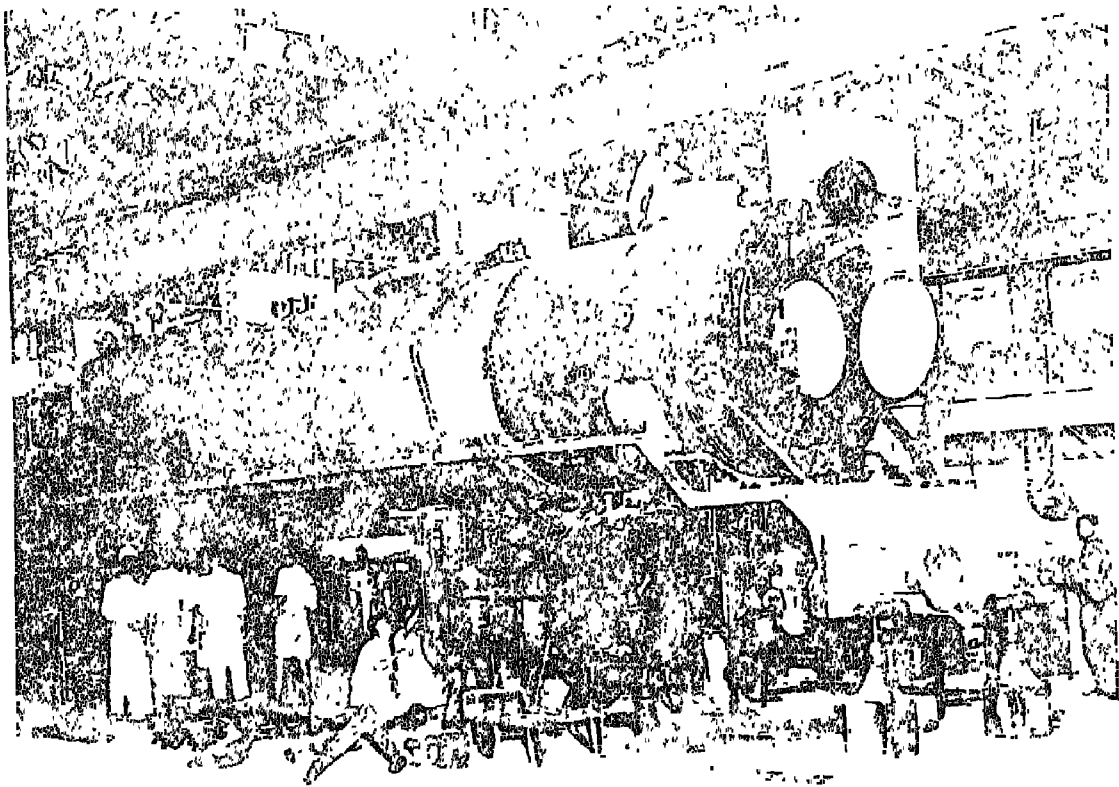
Calcutta is the capital of West Bengal. In order to reach Calcutta we get down at Howrah station. We cross the famous Howrah Bridge over the River Hooghly and enter Calcutta city. Calcutta looks best during *Durga Puja*. It is one of the biggest cities of India. It has many tall buildings. There are crowds of people, buses, trams, cars, taxis, man-driven rickshaws and other carriages on the roads and streets. The Calcutta port is famous. From here jute, tea and many other goods are sent out to other countries.

Most of the people work in fields. But there are many industries also. The cotton, jute and paper mills of West Bengal are well known. There is a steel factory at Durgapur. Many people work in this factory. Some people go to work in the famous coal mines of Raniganj, and the Chittaranjan Locowork where railway engines are made.

West Bengal is also known for its handicrafts. People in other parts of the country are fond of Bengal handicrafts—such as the clay and wood toys and idols and the silk *sarees* of Murshidabad. You have read about the beautiful hand embroidery of Kashmir. The handloom *sarees* of Shantipur in Bengal are equally beautiful.

A view of Calcutta





*An engine nearing completion at
Chittaranjan Locomotive Works*

ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS

Look at the map. In the Bay of Bengal you see a number of small islands. These islands are known as Andaman and Nicobar Islands. They comprise of about 200 small and big islands. Since they lie in the Bay of Bengal, they are also known as the Bay Islands. These islands are a part of India. They are a Union Territory with the state capital at Port Blair. It is a sea port. It is well linked with the other parts of India by air and sea.

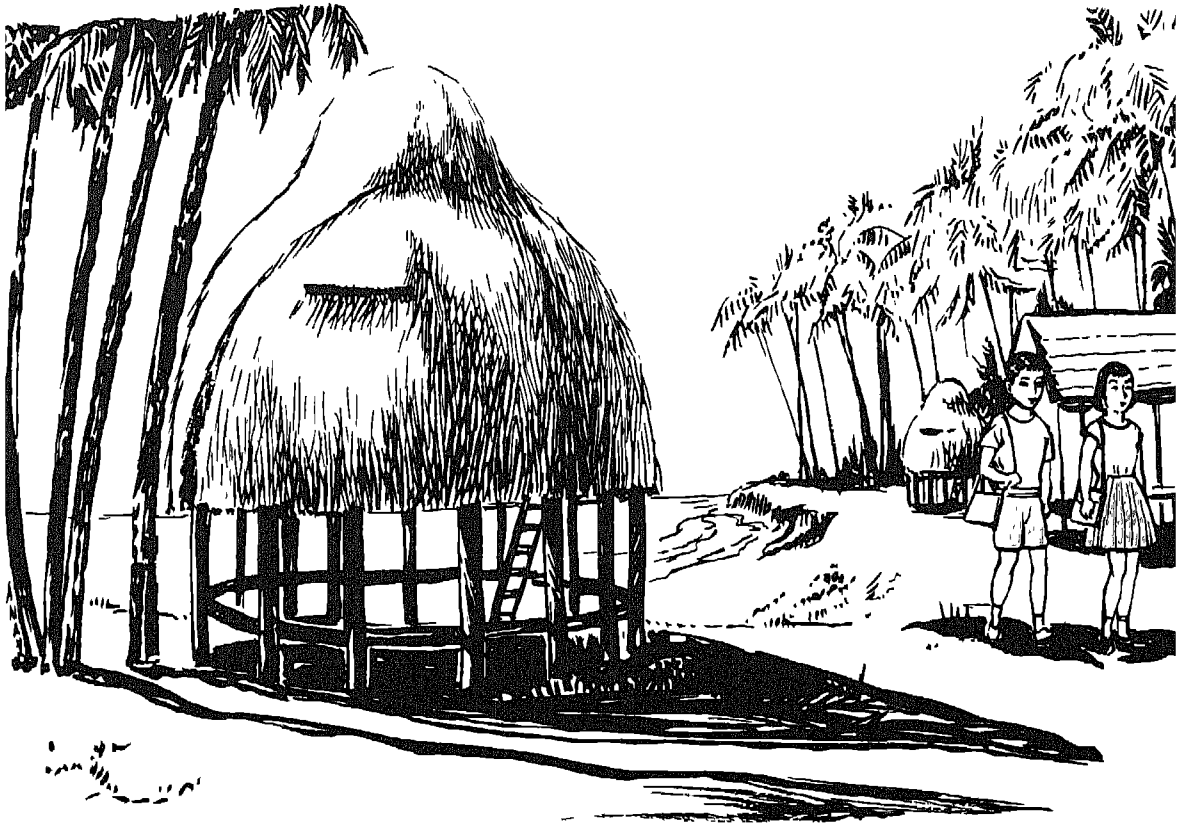
There are a number of hills and narrow valleys. They are covered with green forests. It is always hot and wet on these islands. It rains heavily almost throughout the year. The Nicobar islands are often hit by heavy gales and thunderstorms.

The scenery all over the islands is very charming. The coastal waters with small islets and coral beds look very beautiful. The sea-breeze on these islands makes the weather pleasant.

There are not many villages and towns in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. Only a few thousand people live there. No one lives on some of the islands. In recent years some people from other parts of India have gone and settled there. The houses are made of wood and straw. They stand on posts. The Nicobarese are friendly and hospitable people. They have special huts for visitors to stay. These huts are called *Al Panam*.

The land of Andamans is very fertile. The main crop is paddy. It is grown with the help of rain water. Along the sea coast, there are large coconut plantations. Pineapple, cashewnut, mango and papaya also grow there.

Poultry keeping and fishing are very popular in the Andaman



and Nicobar Islands. In the villages many people catch fish to earn their living. A variety of fish is found near the Andaman sea coast. Most of this fish is sent to other parts of India for sale.

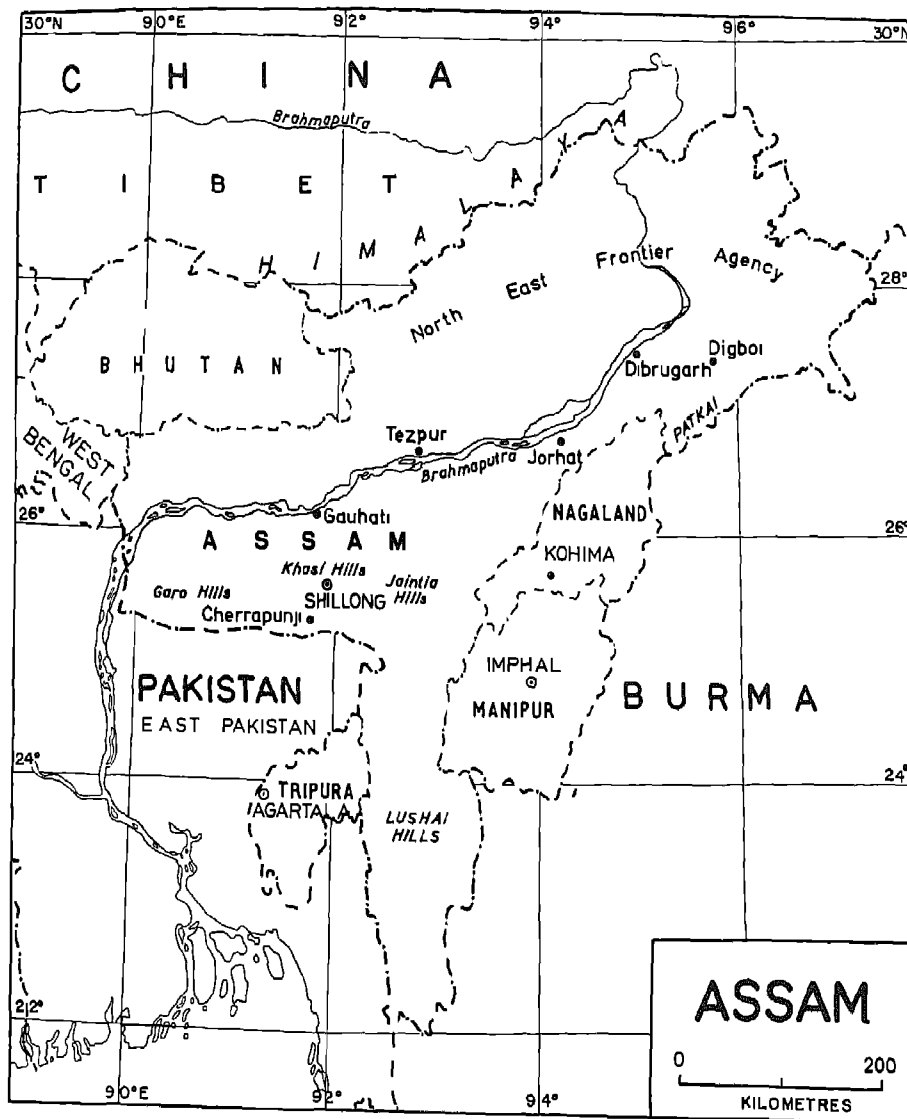
The people of Andaman and Nicobar Islands are simple. They are fond of wrestling, dancing and boat-racing. They speak a language of their own. It is Hindustani mixed with English and Burmese.

Answer these questions

1. Make a list of all neighbouring states and other countries which have a common border with West Bengal.
2. What are the main occupations of the people of West Bengal?
3. What are the major crops of West Bengal?
4. Name any three things West Bengal is known for.
5. What are the main occupations of the people of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands?
6. Would you like to go and live in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands? Why?

Things to do

1. Divide your class into groups. Each group should make clay-models of the following :
 - a) A Bengal village
 - b) A house in Darjeeling.
 - c) A Nicobarese hut.
2. Request your teacher to tell you about Rabindranath Tagore.



15. Assam

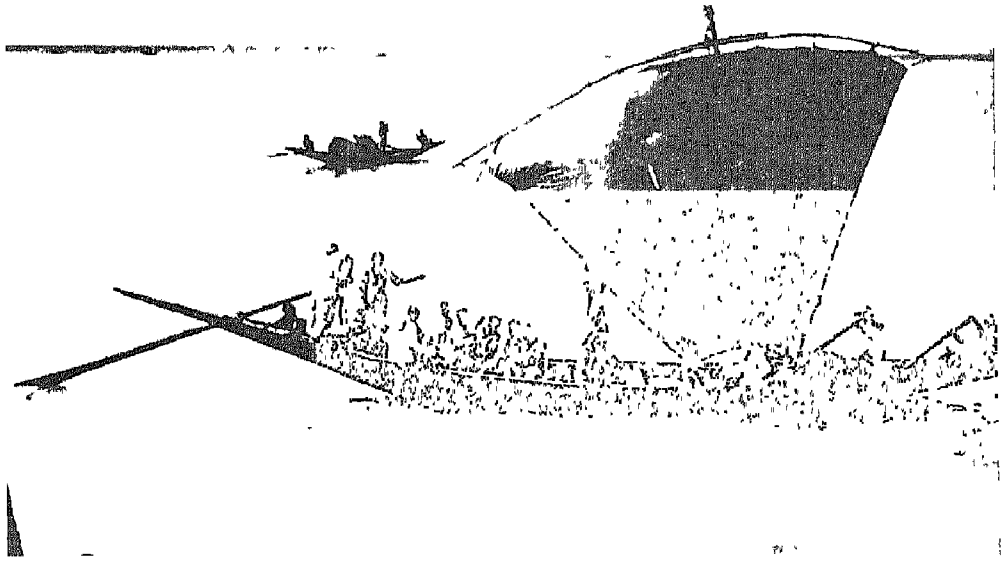
LOOK AT the above map of Assam. It is an important border state of India and lies on the east. It has a common border with China, Burma, East Pakistan and Bhutan. You can see on the map that these countries surround Assam on three sides.

Assam is a beautiful state. It lies at the foot of the Himalayas. Its north-eastern part is known as the North-East Frontier Agency (NEFA). The Brahmaputra river flows through the central part of Assam. Most people live in the Brahmaputra valley. The life of the NEFA people is different from the people in the valley. Note the dress and ornaments of the NEFA people in the picture.

This state has plenty of rains. Cherrapunji gets the heaviest rainfall in the world. In the valley it is warm in summer and cool in winter. The hilly areas are very cold in winter.

On account of heavy rains, the hills are covered with thick forests. Some places are marshy. Towards the east, the forests are so thick that rays of the sun do not reach the ground. It is very difficult for a man to go into these forests. Tigers, leopards, rhinoceros, elephants, wild buffaloes and big snakes are found in these forests. Many people come here to hunt





A boat in the Brahmaputra

and trap elephants. The rhinoceros of Assam are sent to zoos in India and other countries. Bamboo and cane grow in some of these forests. The Assamese people make many useful objects of wood and bamboo.

The Brahmaputra is a mighty river. During rains it gets flooded. The floods cause much harm to the people and the crops. But it also makes the soil of the valley fertile for growing rice and jute.

A large part of Assam is hilly. Some parts are covered with thick forests. It is very difficult to make roads and lay railway lines in such areas. You will find very few roads and railways here. Goods are sent from one place to another by boats and steamers in the Brahmaputra. Some people also go by boats from one place to another. Many cities and towns are situated on the banks of the Brahmaputra. Can you tell why?

Shillong is the state capital of Assam. It is a popular hill station of India. The tall graceful pine trees and its luxurious green plants make it look very beautiful. Another big town of the state is Gauhati.

The people of Assam speak the Assamese language. Their houses are generally made of wood and bamboo. These houses



Assamese homes

stand on posts and have sloping roofs of tin and thatch

The Assamese people are fond of boiled rice and pulses. Plenty of wild ducks and fowls are found in the low-lying areas of Assam. Poultry farming is also common. People eat meat and fish. Tea is a very popular drink.

Assamese women wear a long skirt flowing down to the ankle called *mekhela*, a breast cloth called *riha*, and a shawl called *chaddar*. Men wear *dhoti* and *shirt*. In winter they put on a *chaddar* across their shoulders.

Assam State is known for its tea plantations. It has about half of the tea gardens of India. On the slopes of hills, you will find a number of tea gardens. Thousands of people work in these gardens. Women carrying baskets on their backs pick the tea leaves. The green tea leaves are dried by machines and then packed in wooden boxes. These tea boxes are brought to



A Bihu dance

Calcutta and then sent to other parts of the country and also to other countries.

Munga silk of Assam is well known. The women spin silk thread to make cloth.

You can find Dìgboi on the map of Assam. There are a number of oilwells around this city. Mineral oil is cleaned in oil refineries. This refined oil is called petrol.

People of Assam celebrate many festivals. *Bihu* festivals are very popular. In the month of April they celebrate *Bohag Bihu*. On this day boys and girls sing and dance for the whole night. This dance is called *Bihu Dance* and the song is called *Bihu Song*.

Tea garden



Many tribal people live in the Assam hills. Garo, Khasi, Jaintia, Mizo, Monpa, and Dafla are some of the important tribes. Each tribe has its own language, customs and ways of living. Our Government is trying to educate these people and improve their life in many ways.

MANIPUR

Manipur is a Union Territory. The state capital is Imphal. Its neighbouring states are Assam and Nagaland. In the east and the south, it has a common border with Burma.

Manipur is a land of hills and forests, lakes and marshes. The Manipur valley is surrounded by mountains on all sides. Many kinds of trees and the colourful flowers make the steep hill-sides look very beautiful.

There are villages in the valley and on the hill tops. To reach a hill village you have to climb up a steep hill.

The people of the valley are known as *Meiteis*. They make their houses with *ekra* walling over the wooden frames. Clay and chaff are mixed with water to paste on both sides of the walls. Houses are strong and stand apart from one another. The houses on the hills are made of bamboo and wood.

There is a loom in every house in Manipur. Spinning and weaving are very popular among the village women. They make cotton cloth of fine colourful designs. They also help men in sowing, weeding and reaping crops.

Farming is the main occupation of the people in the Manipur valley and the hills. The farmers depend on the rains for all their crops. They grow rice, sugarcane, cotton, tobacco, potatoes, cauliflowers and other vegetables and fruits. A lot of cauliflowers are sent to Digboi and Calcutta by plane. Most people

eat rice, dal, fish and vegetables. The hill people are very fond of hunting and fishing. The *Meiteis* are very fond of singing and dancing. Most of their songs are in praise of Lord Krishna. Group dances are popular among all people. The colourful Manipur dance is known all over India.

In the valley, the people celebrate Holi, Durga *Puja*, Saraswati *Puja*, *Radhastami* and *Id*.



TRIPURA

A Mampuri dancer

TRIPURA too is a Union Territory. It is an important border state. Its capital is Agartala. It is linked with the rest of the country by air and rail. Look at the map on page 93. You will see that Tripura is a neighbour of Assam. It is bounded by East Pakistan on three sides.

Tripura is a land of valleys and highlands. It is generally hot and humid here. Many tribal people live on the hills. They cut and burn the trees in the forests to grow paddy, sesamum, cotton and vegetables. This type of farming is called *jhuming*. The *jhum* cultivators generally move from place to place in search of new land for *jhuming*. Now some of them are taking to regular cultivation. The people in the plains have regular farms. They do not move from place to place. They grow rice,

sugarcane, groundnut and many vegetables. Pineapple, *litchi*, banana, jack-fruit and mango are the main fruits grown in Tripura.

Some people earn their living by fishing. A lot of fish is found in Rudrasagar Lake. Poultry farming and pig keeping are becoming popular occupations.

Answer these questions

1. Why are most parts of Assam unfit for farming?
2. What are the main occupations of the people of Assam, Manipur and Tripura?
3. In what way is the Brahmaputra useful for Assam?
4. What do you understand by *jhuming*? How is it different from regular farming?
5. Write the names of the places which are known for the following :
 - a) *Munga* silk
 - b) Manipuri Dance
 - c) Oil fields
 - d) Heaviest rainfall in the world
 - e) Elephant trapping

Things to do

1. Find the following on the map :
 - a) Neighbouring states of Assam and the countries which join its borders.
 - b) the Brahmaputra river.
 - c) Shillong, Digboi, Gauhati, Mawsynram near Cherrapunji, Imphal and Agartala.
2. Make a cardboard model of a typical Assamese house.



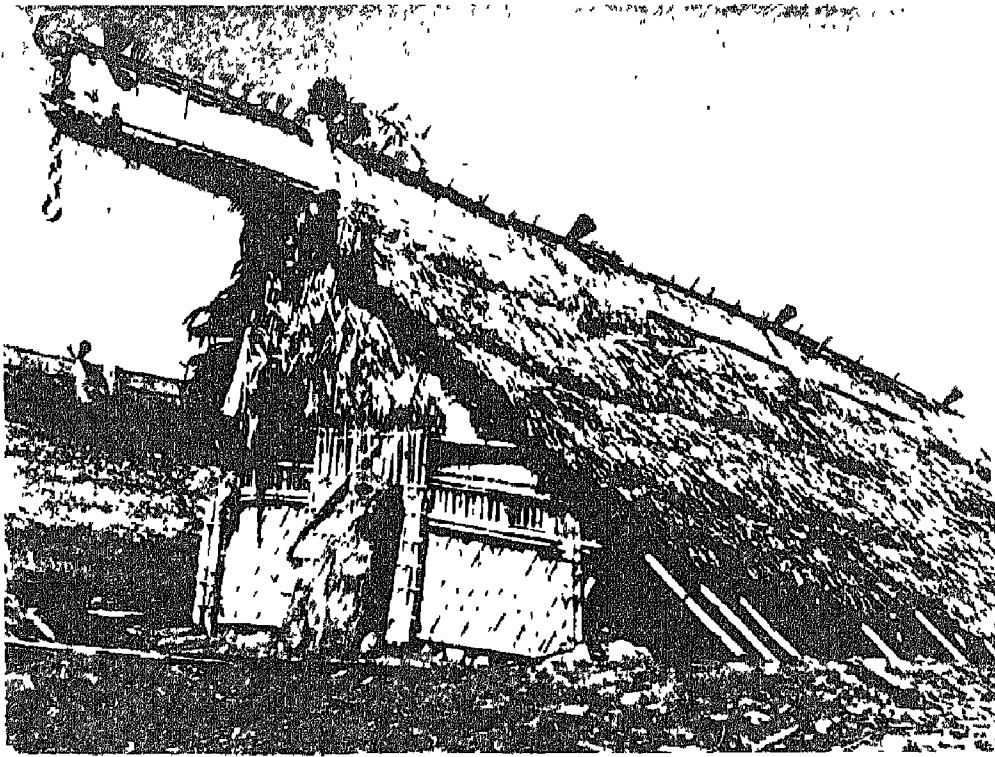
16. Nagaland

ON THE eastern border of India is our Nagaland State. It is a very small state and has only three districts—Kohima, Mokokchung and Tuensang. Kohima is the capital of Nagaland.

Now look at the above map. It shows Nagaland and parts of its neighbouring states—Assam and Manipur. In the east, Nagaland touches the border of Burma.

Almost the whole of Nagaland consists of a long narrow strip of hills. These hills are covered with forests. Wild buffaloes, elephants, tigers, leopards and bears are found in these forests. Rainfall is sufficient and there are many small rivers and streams, but there are no lakes or tanks.

The people of Nagaland are known as Nagas. There are about a dozen major tribes of the Nagas. They speak different languages. Most of Naga tribes make their houses on the tops of



A morung in Nagaland

hills. There are very few villages in the plains. A Naga village looks like a hill fortress.

The Naga villages are usually large. The houses in the villages are also very big. They are made of bamboo and wood and have tin roofs.

A *Morung* is a must in all Naga villages. The *Morung* is a small community building for the unmarried young boys of the village. They play and stay in the *Morung* at night.

The Nagas eat rice. They grow enough rice for themselves. *Jhuming* has been quite common among the Nagas. Now they are taking to regular cultivation and new methods of farming. They can get good seeds, fertilizers and new tools of farming from the Community Development Office of the area. This helps them to grow more rice, vegetables and other crops.

The Nagas do a lot of hunting in the forests and fishing in

the rivers. They like to eat fish, and pork. Rice-beer is their favourite drink. It gives them strength. They call it *zu*. They also take tea and milk.

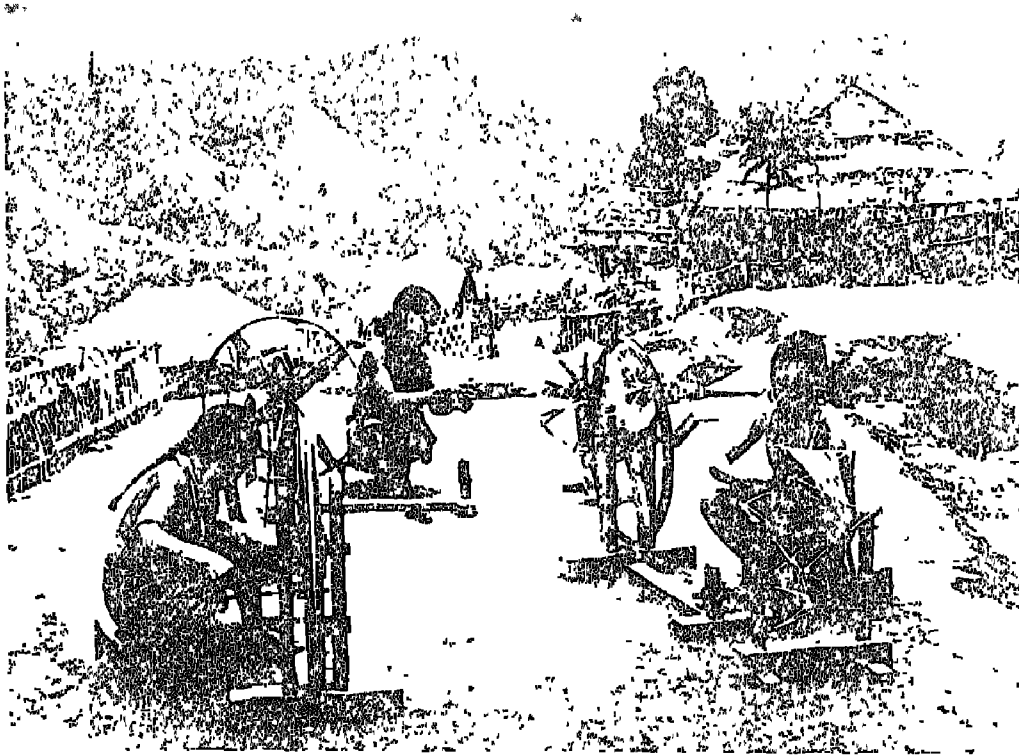
The Nagas are a warlike people. The spear, the hatchet and the gun are some of their weapons of war. The hatchet is a very useful tool for them. They call it *dao*. The *mithun* is the chief domestic animal of the Nagas.

Note the picture of the Nagas on page 105. Each tribe has its own dress. The Naga men and women use feathers, goat's hair, shells, horns, bones and ivory in their tribal dresses.

Nagaland has made much progress since India became free. Many things have changed. Several schools and training centres have been opened. Boys and girls study in these schools. Boys wear shirts, shorts and coats. Girls dress in skirts and coats.

Naga children in a school at Kohima





Naga girls learning weaving in a school

They learn English, Hindi and other subjects. Bright boys and girls are awarded scholarships and can study in any college or university of India.

The Nagas are coming into contact more and more with their countrymen in the other states of India. Good roads join the important towns and villages of Nagaland to the other states. Nagaland sends a lot of timber to other parts of India. Nowadays, Nagaland gets many things from other states of the country. The Nagas now use chairs, tables and other furniture. They wear smart walking shoes, fashionable hats and raincoats. Women and girls now use blouses, lipsticks, umbrellas and many other things. Metal pots, enamel mugs and plates are slowly replacing the old bamboo vessels.

All big towns and many villages have hospitals and dispensaries. Kohima and some other towns and villages have electricity.

Nagaland has many cottage industries. The Naga women are good at weaving. They weave fine cloth of different designs on small looms. Many Naga women and girls learn knitting, tailoring, weaving and paper-making in government technical schools. Boys learn carpentry, smithy work, masonry and wood-carving.

The Nagas have no castes. By nature they are free and cheerful. They are full of adventure and courage. They are fond of dancing and singing.

Answer these questions

1. What does a Naga village look like?
2. What is the main food of the Nagas?

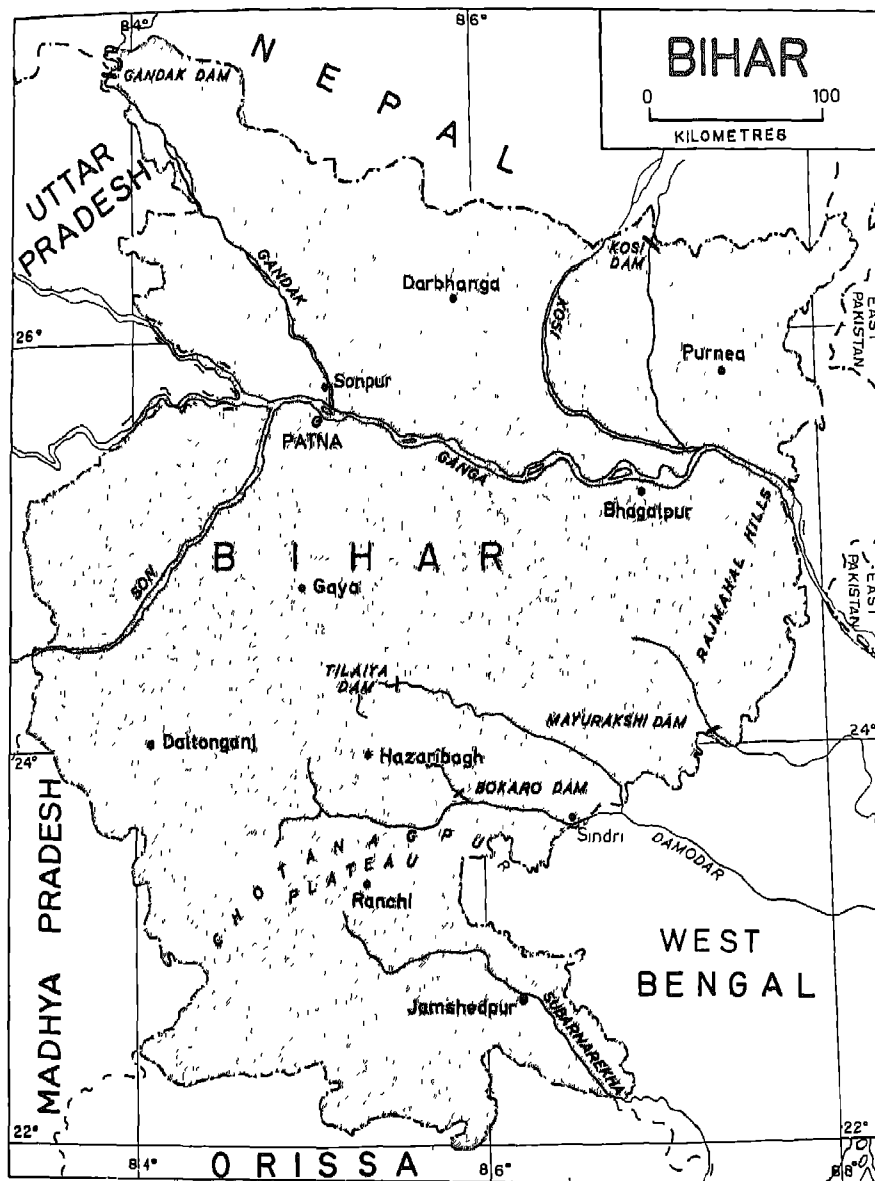
A Naga dance



3. Tell in your own words the progress Nagaland has made since Independence.
4. Name the main occupations and cottage industries of the Nagas.
5. Complete the following :
 - a) A *dao* is a _____.
 - b) *zu* is a _____.
 - c) The capital of Nagaland is _____.
 - d) The Naga women are good at _____.

Things to do

1. Make lists of the things which Nagaland gets from other states and which it sends out to them
2. Suppose you are a Naga boy. Tell in your own words how things are changing in Nagaland



17. Bihar

LOOK AT the above map. This is Bihar State. On the map of India you will find it to the east of Uttar Pradesh. In the north it shares the boundary with Nepal. Four states of India touch its boundary. Name these states.

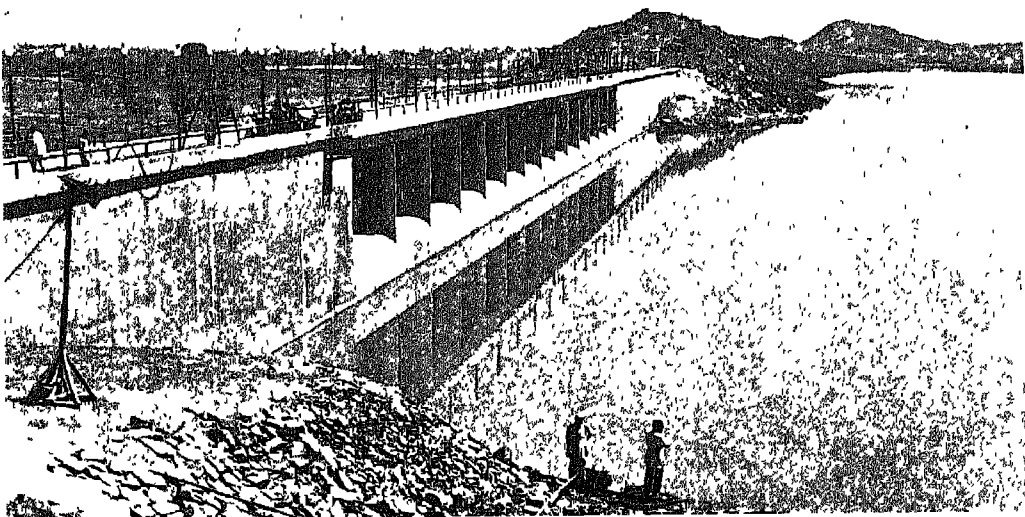
In the map note the rivers flowing through the northern part of the state. Ganga is the most important river. The land in this part is level and has been made fertile by the rivers flowing through it. The land in the south of the plain is hilly. The rivers flowing through this area have formed valleys. People live in these valleys and grow rice

Except the river valleys, the land in the south is covered with forests. These forests are rich in timber. They also give us raw materials for making paper and soft board. We also get lac from these forests. Wild animals like tiger, leopard, bear and deer live in these forests.

In the olden days the southern part of the state was regarded as waste land. Now it is coming into importance. Do you know why? This area is rich in minerals like iron, coal, manganese and mica which are found here under the earth. This region is one of the biggest sources of iron in our country. Iron, coal and manganese are important raw materials for making steel.

Note the Damodar river on the map. Floods in this river have been causing heavy losses. Now the river has been tamed through a number of dams which have been built under the Damodar Valley Project on the Damodar and some other small

The Tilya Dam



rivers. The water is collected behind the dams and used for irrigation and for producing electricity.

In the northern plain too rivers sometimes get flooded and damage the crops very badly. Therefore, many small and big embankments and barrages have been built. The Kosi and Gandak projects are important. They check floods. The river water is used for irrigation.

Bihar is hot in summer and cold in winter. Rainfall is heavier in the eastern and southern parts than in the western parts of the state.

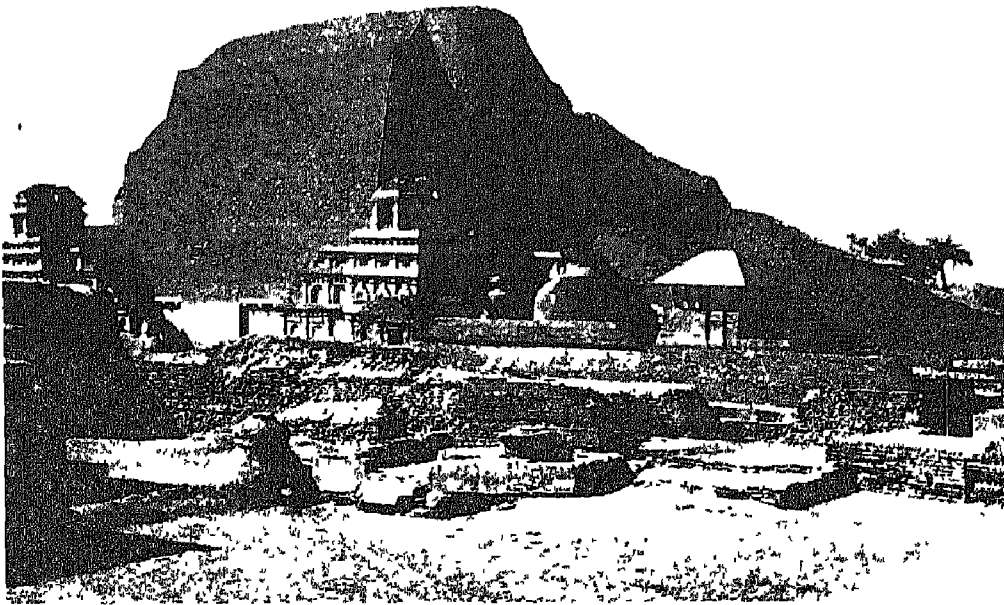
In the plains and the river valleys most of the people work in fields. They grow rice, wheat, maize, sugarcane and tobacco. In the northern plains mangoes, bananas and *litchies* are grown in plenty.

In the plains you will find *pucca* houses in towns. In villages, houses have mud or brick walls and sloping thatched or tiled roofs. People of Bihar love to eat rice with pulse and vegetables. They also eat meat and fish. Men usually put on *dhoti* and *kurta*. Women put on *saree* and blouse. Most of them like to put on ornaments.

People of Bihar speak Hindi. Some speak Urdu also. They are fond of music and dance. They celebrate festivals like the *Holi*, *Divali*, *Dasehra* and *Id*.

Look at the map and note the location of Chhota Nagpur plateau. Many tribal people live here. These people are strong and stout. They work mostly in the fields. Some of them live on hunting. Now many of them work in factories and mines. They live a simple life. Each tribe has its own language. Now the government is helping them to improve their living conditions.

Point out Patna in the map. It is located in the northern plain. It is an old city. In the olden times it was called Pataliputra. Now it is the capital of Bihar. *Golghar* and *Har Mandir* are some of the interesting places in Patna. Guru Gobind Singh



Remains of Nalanda

was born at *Har Mandir*. Patna has a fine Museum also.

In Sonpur a famous cattle fair is held every year in the month of November. The best cattle of the state are brought to the fair. Here one may buy anything ranging from a parrot to an elephant.

Another important town of Bihar is Gaya. It is a holy place of the Hindus. *Mahabodhi* temple of Budh Gaya is near this place. Buddhists from all over the world come to this temple. The ruins of Nalanda are well known. Long, long ago Nalanda used to be a great centre of learning

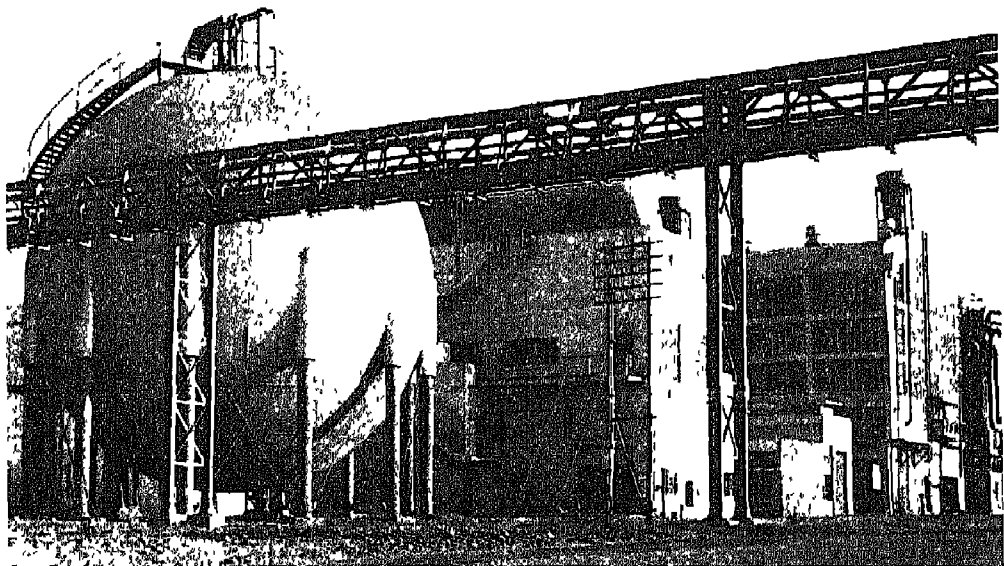
Bihar Sharif is a holy place of the Muslims. Close to it is Pavapuri sacred to the Jains. Thousands of people visit the hot springs in Rajgir. In ancient times Buddha stayed here for a long time. The district of Hazaribagh is famous for its mica mines. Ranchi is a hill city and is the summer capital of the state. Now it is becoming an important industrial town.

Look at the map and note the location of Jamshedpur. It is famous all over the country for the Tata Iron and Steel Works. Another iron and steel factory is being set up at Bokaro. Sindri has a big fertilizer factory. A big oil refinery has been set up at Berauni.

Answer these questions

1. Name the states and the countries touching Bihar State.
2. Mention the important minerals found in Bihar.
3. What are the main occupations of the people of Bihar?

Sindri Fertilizer Factory



4. Why have the iron and steel works been set up in the hilly region of Bihar?
5. Column 1 gives the names of a few places. Select the correct name of the place from Column 1 and write it against each statement in Column 2.

Column 1

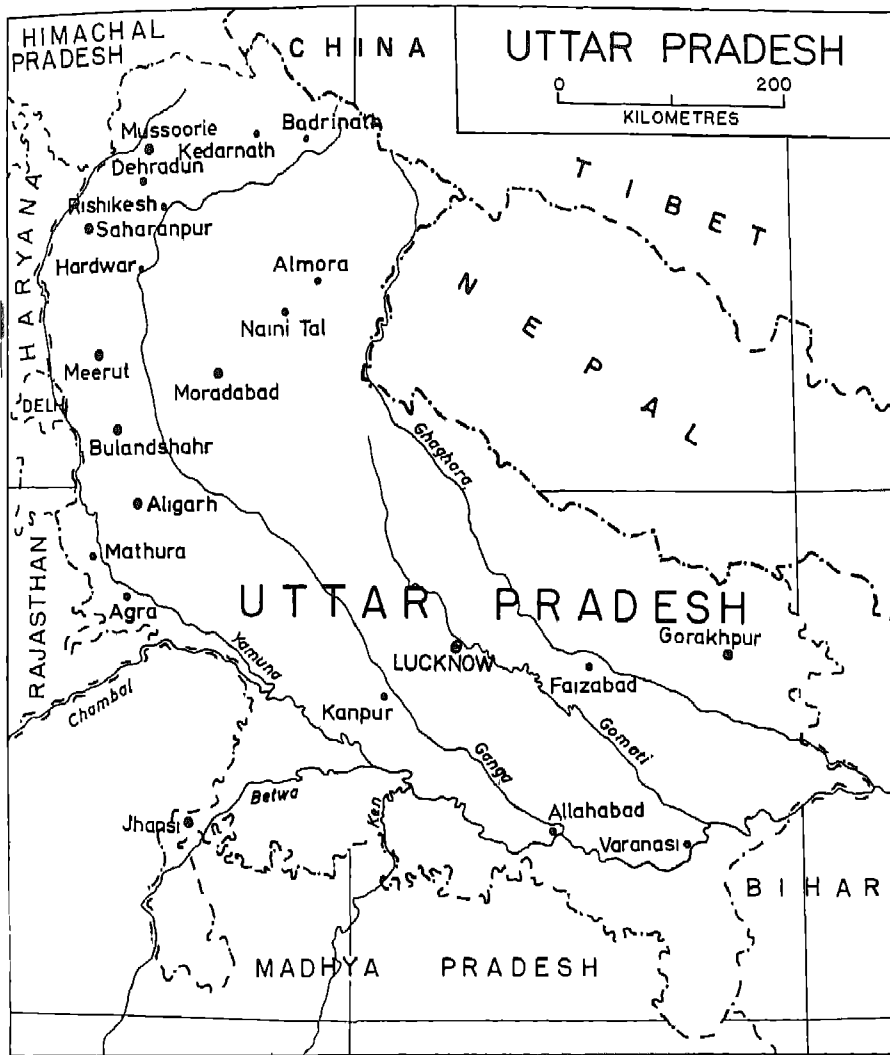
Patna
Jamshedpur
Budh Gaya
Sindri
Sonpur
Ranchi

Column 2

Fertilizer factory _____
sacred to the Buddhists _____
hill city _____
iron & steel works _____
capital of Bihar _____
cattle fair _____

Things to do

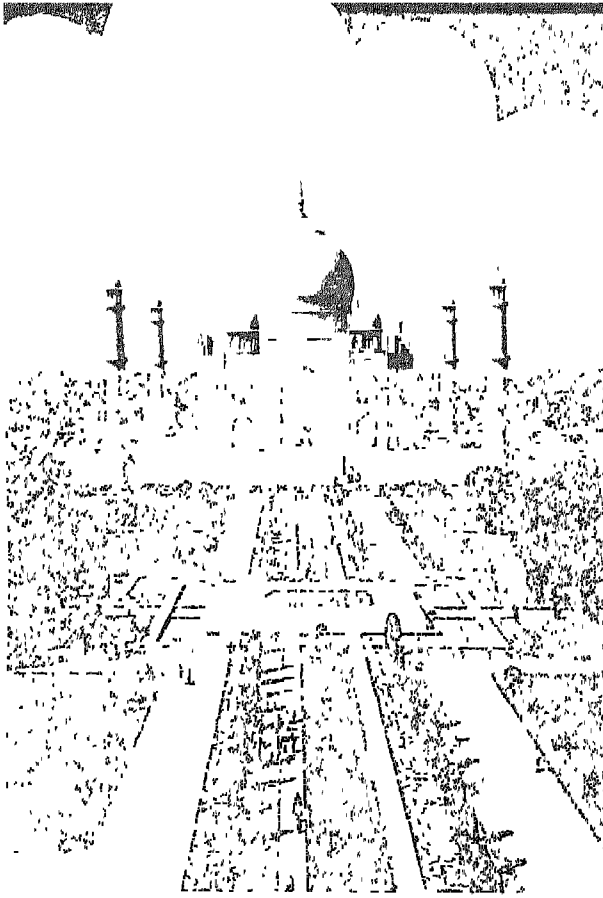
1. Find on the map of Bihar State :
 - a) Main rivers : the Ganga, the Gandak, the Kosi, the Son, the Damodar, the Subarnarekha.
 - b) Cities : Patna, Bhagalpur, Gaya, Hazaribagh, Ranchi, Jamshedpur, Sindri.
2. Collect pictures of Damodar Valley Projects and request your teacher to tell you more about this project.



18. Uttar Pradesh

LOOK AT the above map of Uttar Pradesh. Nepal and China lie to its north. Name the states of India which touch its boundaries.

It is a very large state of our country. The number of people living in this state is larger than that of any other state of India. Do you know how many people live here?



The Taj Mahal

There are many rivers in Uttar Pradesh. The Ganga and the Yamuna are the two large rivers. Other important rivers are the Ghagra, the Betwa and the Gomti. You can find these rivers on the map.

There are thousands of villages in Uttar Pradesh. Most of the villagers are farmers. If you ever visit a village in Uttar Pradesh, you will find the farmers working in their fields outside the village. You will see green fields and orchards of guava and mango. *Jamun*, *mahua* and *neem* trees are a common sight. At one place you may find a farmer plough-

ing, at another place you will find a farmer watering his fields. These days some farmers are changing to new methods of farming. They use tractors for ploughing and tubewells for watering their farms. Canals have also been constructed to irrigate the land. Use of fertilizers and better seeds is becoming popular.

The soil of Uttar Pradesh is very fertile. The farmers grow many crops. Uttar Pradesh is known for its wheat, rice and sugarcane all over India. Barley, gram and potatoes are also grown in plenty. You must have eaten guavas from Allahabad, mangoes from Lucknow and *litchies* of Dehradun.

If you pass by a village well in Uttar Pradesh, you will find women and girls drawing water. They wear either *ghagra* or *saree* with blouse. Men wear *dhoti*, *kurta* and cap. Most village houses are made of mud or bricks. They have thatched or tiled roofs. People speak Hindi. Urdu is also used.

People of Uttar Pradesh celebrate many festivals like, *Holi*, *Rakshabandhan*, *Dasehra*, *Diwali*, *Id* and Christmas. *Ramlila* and *Raslila* are quite common. In the monsoon season women and girls celebrate *Teej*.

Uttar Pradesh has several industries. There are many sugar factories which produce sugar. It is sent to other parts of India and the world.

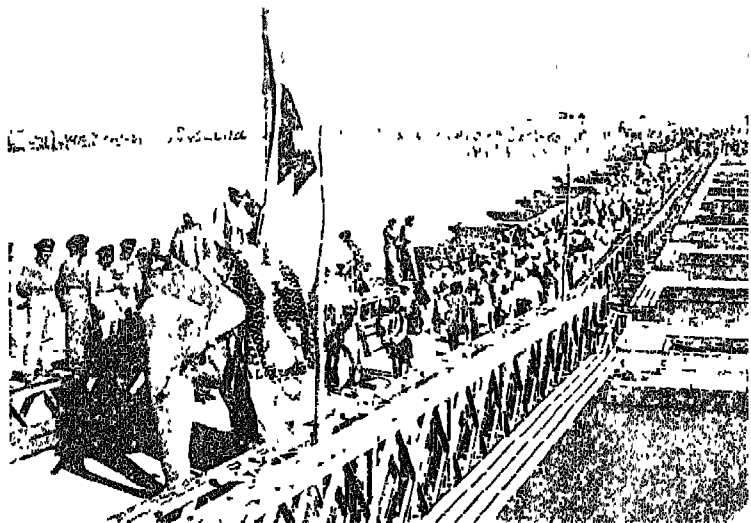
Kanpur is a very big industrial city. It has many factories where cotton and woollen cloth and leather goods are made. It also has an aircraft factory.

The Taj Mahal of Agra is known throughout the world. This beautiful building of pure white marble was built by the Mughul Emperor Shah Jahan.

Lucknow is the capital of Uttar Pradesh. It is a beautiful old city on the banks of River Gomti. It has buildings and *Imambaras* of the times of the *Nawabs* of Oudh.

The Ganga and the Yamuna meet at Prayag. This is the other name for Allahabad. It is an important holy city of the Hindus. The famous *Kumbh* fair is held here once in every twelve years. People from every nook and corner of India come here at the time of the *Kumbh* fair to have a dip in the holy Ganga. Perhaps, you know that *Chacha* Nehru was born at Allahabad. His house is known as Anand Bhawan.

Uttar Pradesh has several other holy places. Badrinath, Hardwar, Mathura, Brindavan, Ayodhya and Varanasi are very important. There are many famous temples in these cities. Varanasi is also known for its brass wares and silk *sarees*. A diesel



*The Kumbha fair
at Allahabad*

locomotive factory has also been set up near Varanasi.

In the North of Uttar Pradesh lie the Himalayan ranges. Almora, Nainital, Mussoori and Dehra Dun are in this area. They are beautiful hill stations. Many people go there during the summer.

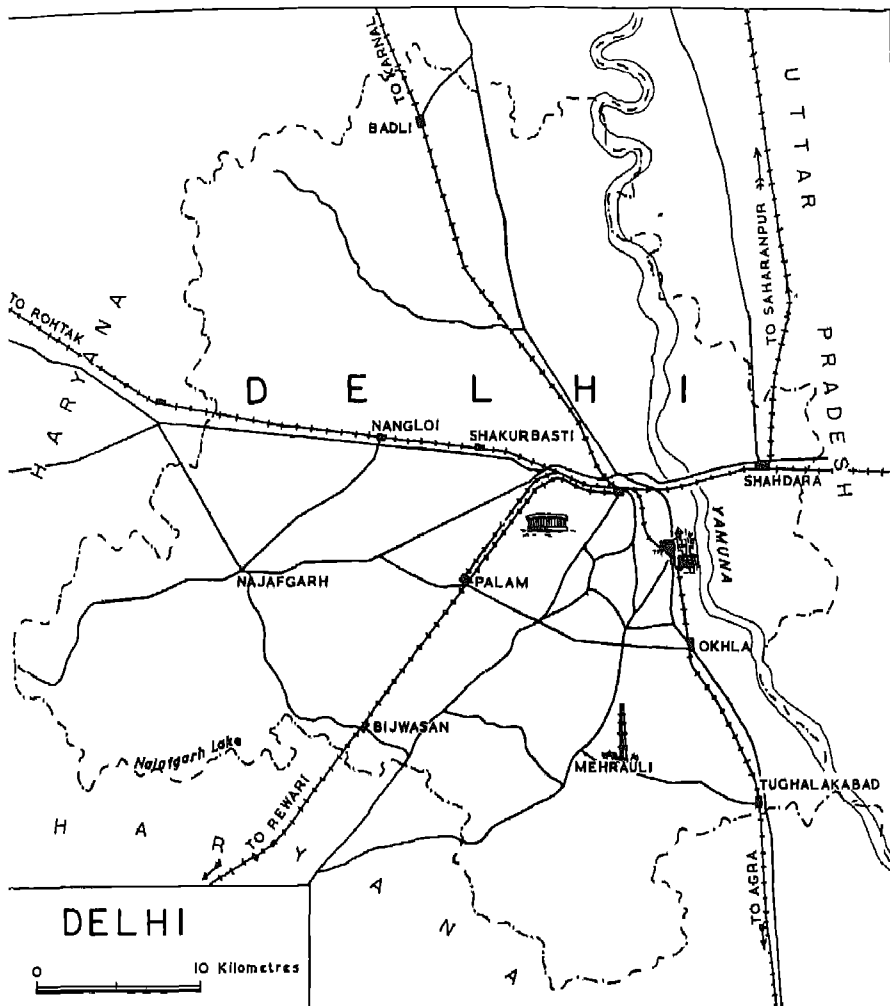
Answer these questions

1. What are the main crops of Uttar Pradesh?
2. How are the farmers of Uttar Pradesh able to grow a variety of crops and fruits?
3. Name a few important industries of Uttar Pradesh.
4. Rearrange the following table correctly and write it in your exercise book.

Allahabad	—	the capital of Uttar Pradesh
Lucknow	—	Kumbh fair is held here once in every 12 years.
Agra	—	a big industrial city
Kanpur	—	a holy city of the Hindus
Hardwar	—	known for brass work and sarees.
Varanasi	—	the city of the Taj.

Things to do

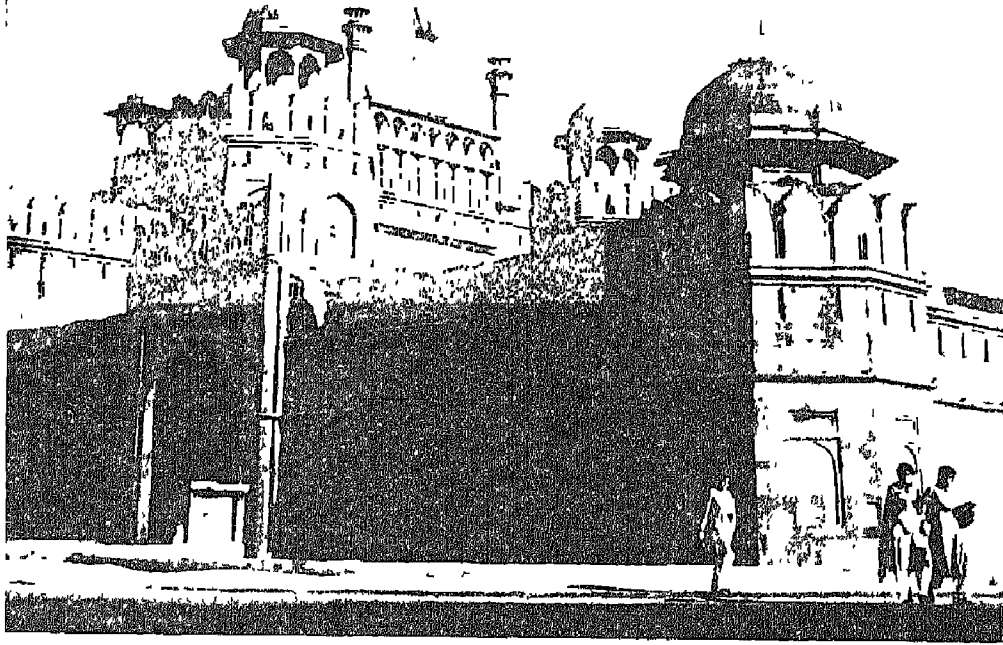
1. Find the following cities on the map of Uttar Pradesh : Hardwar, Kanpur, Mathura, Lucknow, Faizabad, Varanasi, Allahabad and Agra.
2. Request your teacher to tell you why a larger number of people live in Uttar Pradesh than in any other state in India.



19. Delhi

LOOK AT the above map of Delhi State. It is one of the smallest states of our country. It is a Union Territory. Haryana and Uttar Pradesh are its neighbouring states.

Except for a small area which consists of a low ridge, the whole state is a low-lying plain. The Yamuna river flows through this state. The soil is fertile. Farmers in Delhi villages grow wheat, barley, gram, *jowar*, *bajra*, sugarcane and vegetables.



The Red Fort

It gets rains from July to September. It is very cold in winter and hot in summer.

Delhi State has a very important place in our country. Delhi city is the capital of India.

The city of Delhi covers a large part of Delhi State. In the remaining part, there are villages. These villages are fast becoming a part of the expanding city of Delhi.

Delhi is a very old city. Forts, tombs, mosques, temples and minarets of olden times can be seen here even today.

Delhi has been the capital of many kings and kingdoms in the past. It is said that the Pandavas chose this place for their capital. They named it Indraprastha. After this many kings built and rebuilt, named and renamed this city.

The Mughal Emperor Shahjahan built on the bank of the river Yamuna the city of Shahjahanabad more than three hundred years ago. Shahjahanabad is now known as Old Delhi

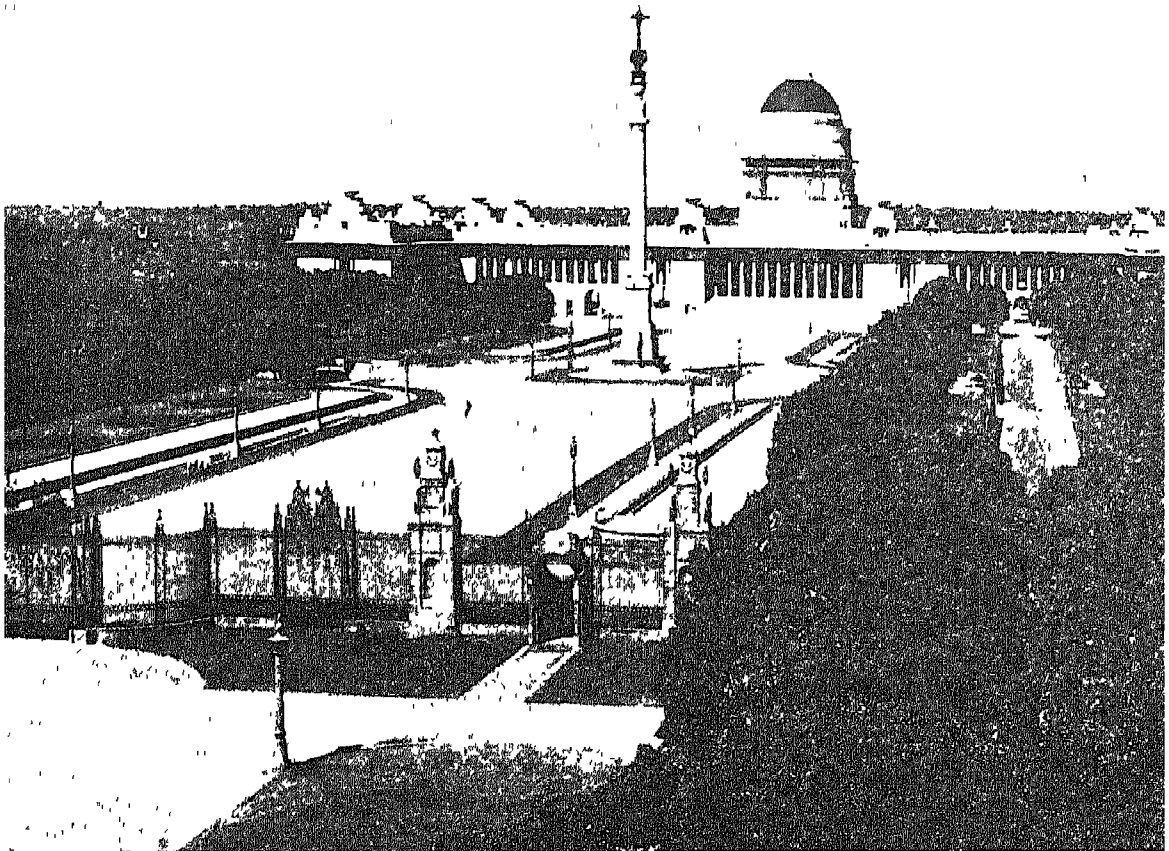
or the walled city. The famous Red Fort and the Jama Masjid are in Old Delhi.

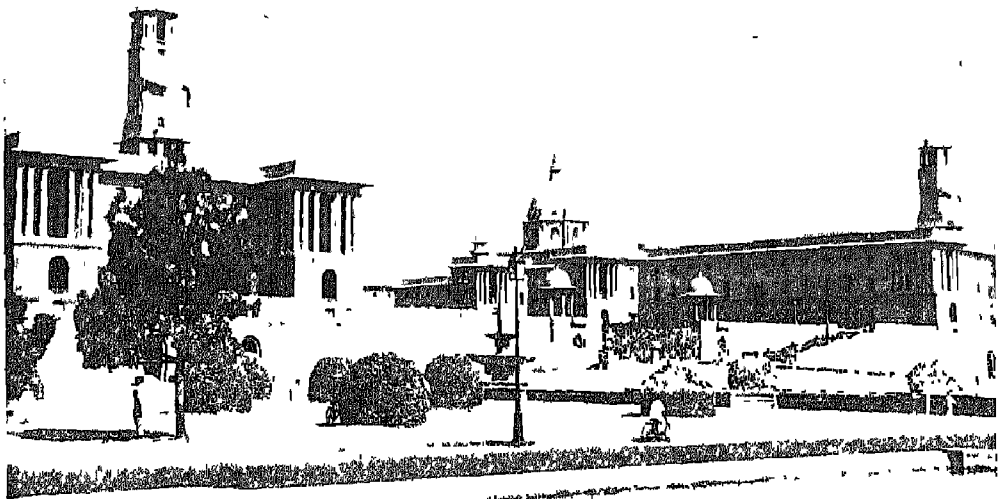
There are many big buildings and offices in New Delhi. The Rashtrapati Bhavan is the most important. The President of India lives there.

The offices of the Union Government are in the Central Secretariat building. Thousands of government servants work in these offices. Our Prime Minister and other Union Ministers also have their offices in this building.

Look at this grand circular building in the picture. It is the Parliament House. The Indian Parliament meets here. The

Rashtrapati Bhawan





Central Secretariat Building

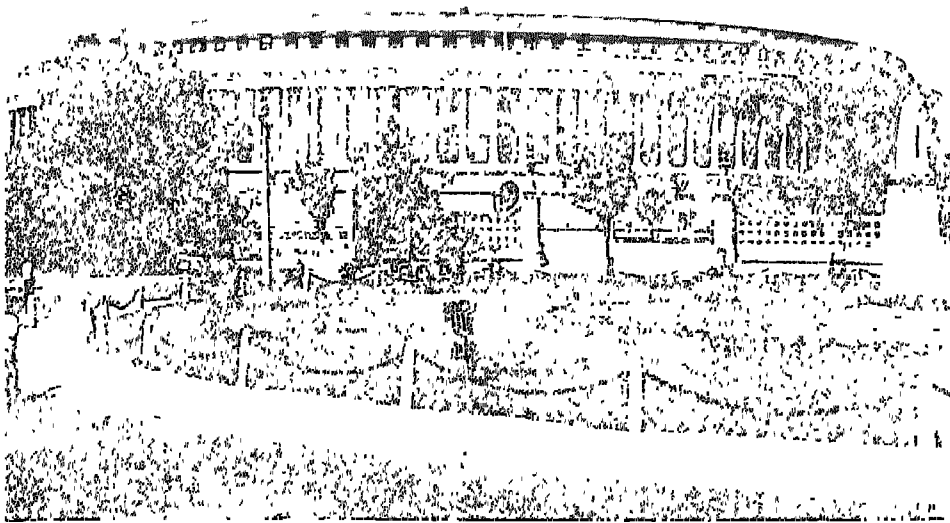
Members of Parliament come from all the states and union territories of India. They make laws for the country. We respect the laws of our land.

Another important building is the Supreme Court of India. This is the highest court of justice in the country. The Chief Justice of India holds his court here.

Delhi is well-linked with all state capitals and other important towns by rail, road and air. It is also linked with other countries of the world.

In Delhi, you will find people from all states of India. Some people come here for service. Others come for business. Some others visit Delhi for sightseeing. Most countries have their embassies here. Many foreigners work in these embassies.

The people of Delhi come from different places. They speak different languages and have different dresses. This variety makes Delhi a colourful place.

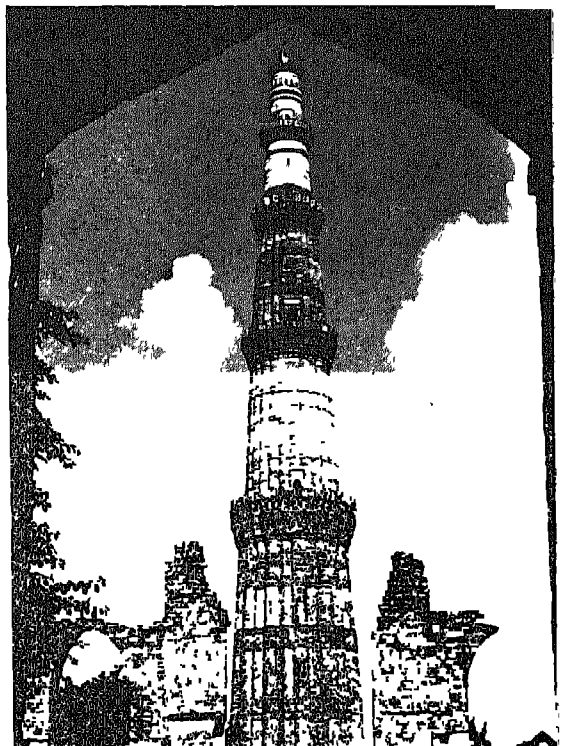


The Parliament House

The Independence Day and the Republic Day are celebrated in the capital with great pomp and show. Every year on the Independence Day the Prime Minister hoists the National Flag on the Red Fort. The President takes the salute on the Republic Day Parade every year on the 26th January. All people take part in these National Festivals.

The Qutab Minar, Rajghat, Zoo and Birla Mandir are worth a visit. Do not forget to see them if you ever go to Delhi.

The Qutab Minar



Answer these questions

1. Who built Shahjahanabad? What is it called these days?
2. Why is Delhi a very important city of our country?
3. Name four things which you would like to see when you visit Delhi.
4. Why do we find people from different states of India and different parts of the world in Delhi?
5. Write the names of the building where
 - a) The President of India lives _____.
 - b) The Indian Parliament meets _____.
 - c) The Chief Justice of India holds his court ____.
 - d) The Union Government offices are housed ____.

Things to do

1. Collect pictures showing the buildings and the life of the people in Delhi city.
 2. Tell in your own words the story of an imaginary trip to the capital of our country.
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OUR HERITAGE

Last year, you heard many stories from your teacher. You perhaps know some other stories too.

In this part of the book, you will read a few stories of long, long ago. Through these stories, you will know about some great men and kings of our country. You will also learn many things about the life of the people in ancient times.

Now read and enjoy these interesting stories.

•

20. The Story of the Ramayana

ONCE UPON a time there was a king called *Raja Dasharatha*. He ruled in Ayodhya. He had three queens and four sons. Kaushalya was the mother of Rama, the eldest son. Kaikeyi was the mother of Bharata. Sumitra was the mother of Lakshman and Shatrughna.

All the brothers loved one another. All of them were brought up with love and care. King Dasharatha sent them to Guru Vishwamitra to receive training in the use of the bow and arrow and other methods of fighting.

Near Ayodhya there was another kingdom known as Maithla. *Raja Janak* ruled there. He held a *swayamvara* for the marriage of his daughter. In this case the condition was



made that Sita would marry the person who could fix an arrow in the *Dhanush*. All those who had come there tried to lift the *Dhanush* but failed. In the end Rama went forward and tried. He lifted the bow easily. As he bent the bow it broke into two pieces. Sita garlanded Rama and they were married. Later on Rama's younger brothers were also married to the three sisters of Sita.

Raja Dasharatha had grown old. He wanted Rama to be the king of Ayodhya. Queen Kaikayi did not like this. She wanted her son Bharata to become the king.

Once *Raja* Dasharatha was very pleased with Kaikayi and promised to grant her two boons. Kaikayi asked *Raja* Dasharatha to send Rama away to the forest for fourteen years and to make Bharata the king of Ayodhya. At that time Bharata was not present there. Perhaps he would not have let his mother do this.

Rama obeyed his father's orders and left for the forest. Sita and Lakshmana also went with him. *Raja* Dasharatha could not stand this shock and he died. When Bharata returned to Ayodhya and heard this news, he was very sad. He wanted that Rama should be the king. He went to the forest and requested Rama to come back home and be the king. Rama did not agree. He remained in the forest to honour his father's promise. Bharata was a loyal brother. He kept Rama's *paduka*—wooden shoes on the throne and ruled on behalf of his brother.

After a long journey Rama, Lakshmana and Sita reached the place known as Panchavati near Nasik in Maharashtra. There they built a beautiful hut and lived in it.

Ravana was the king of Lanka. One day Rama went out for hunting. Lakshmana went behind him. Sita was left alone in the hut. Ravana came there in the guise of a *sadhu*. He begged for alms. As soon as Sita came out to give alms, Ravana picked her up and ran away with her.

When Rama and Lakshmana came back, they did not find

Sita in the hut. They were very sad. They went out in search of her. On the way they met Hanumana and Sugreeva. They all became good friends and collected a strong army. Rama with the help of Hanuman and Angad constructed a bridge over the sea near Rameshvaram and attacked Lanka. There was a big battle in which Ravana and many of his chiefs were killed. Rama was able to get Sita back. Ravana's younger brother Vibhishan was a very noble man. Rama gave him the kingdom of Lanka.

After fourteen years of exile Rama, Lakshmana and Sita came back to Ayodhya. Bharata welcomed them and handed over the kingdom to his brother Rama. The people of Ayodhya were happy to have Rama as their king. They celebrated this occasion by lighting lamps.



Rama ruled in Ayodhya for many years. He made people happy. There were no thefts. No one was poor. Life was peaceful. Our beloved *Bapu*—Mahatma Gandhi—had a desire to have such a rule in our country. He called it *Rama Rajya*.

Millions of Indian people worship Rama as god. Even today *Dasehra* and *Diwali* are celebrated all over India. People celebrate *Dasehra* in the memory of Rama's victory over Ravana. *Diwali* is celebrated in memory of Rama's home coming.

The story of the Ramayana was first of all written by poet Valmiki in Sanskrit. Tulsidasa wrote it in Hindi. This book is known as Ramcharitmanas.

Answer these questions

1. How did Rama marry Sita?
2. Why was Rama sent to the forests?
3. Who was Ravana? Why did Rama fight with him?
4. Why are *Dasehra* and *Diwali* celebrated in our country?
5. Who wrote the story of the Ramayana first?

Things to do

1. Dramatize the story of Ramayana.
2. Request your teacher to tell you how *Dasehra* and *Diwali* are celebrated in the different states of India.

21. The Story of Mahabharata

LONG, LONG ago, there was a kingdom called Kuru. Hastinapur was its capital. This place is near the modern city of Delhi. The king of Hastinapur had two sons named Dhritarashtra and Pandu. Dhritarashtra was born blind. Therefore, his brother Pandu sat on the throne after the death of his father.

Dhritarashtra had a hundred sons. They were known as Kauravas. Duryodhana was the eldest. Pandu had five sons. These were Yudhistara, Bhima, Arjuna, Nakula and Sahadeva. They were known as the Pandavas. The Pandavas were very young when their father died. Therefore Dhritarashtra became the king. He appointed Dronacharya as the Guru of Kauravas and the Pandavas. They received very good training in the art of fighting. In a very short time they learnt the use of the bow and arrow, *gada*, spear and sword. When they grew up, Arjuna became an expert in shooting with the bow and arrow. No one could compete with Bhima in the use of the *gada*.

Duryodhana feared that the Pandavas might ask for the kingdom when they grow up. He tried to kill the Pandavas in many ways. But he did not succeed. Once the Pandavas were made to stay in a house of lac. It was specially built for them. One night the house was set on fire. By chance the Pandavas had left earlier. Thus they saved their lives and went to the forests.

During these days *Raja* Drupada arranged a *swayamvara* for the marriage of his daughter Draupadi. The princess was to marry the man who could shoot at the eye of a rotating fish. The shot was to be aimed only by looking at the reflection of

the fish in the oil pan. Many kings tried but they failed. By chance, the Pandavas were there. Arjuna shot at the eye of the fish and was married to Draupadi. When the Pandavas brought her home, they called out to their mother Kunti, "Arjuna has won a wonderful prize!" "Share it like good brothers", replied Kunti, not knowing what the prize was. And so Draupadi became the wife of all the five brothers. When king Dhritrashtra heard this news he asked the Pandavas to come back home. He divided his kingdom into two parts. One part was given to the Kauravas and the other to the Pandavas.

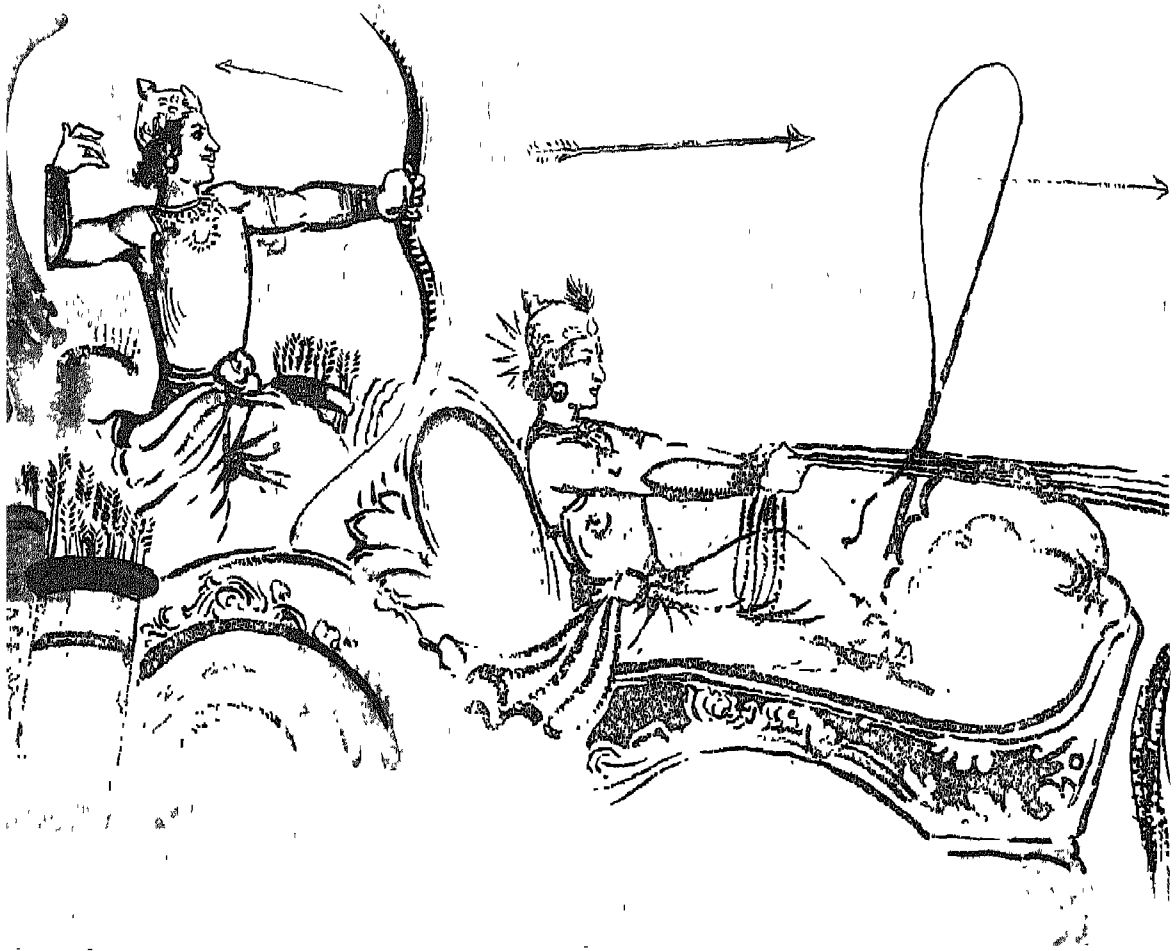
The Pandavas got a beautiful city built in their part of the kingdom of Hastinapur. The city was named Indraprastha. It is said that Indraprastha was situated where we see the modern city of Delhi.

Duryodhana was jealous of the Pandavas. He played another trick to get their kingdom. He invited Yudhistara to a game of dice. Yudhistara was an honest and noble man. He could not understand the trick. He started playing the game innocently and agreed to the stakes suggested by Duryodhana. During the game Duryodhana played several tricks. Through foul play he took the whole of the kingdom of the Pandavas and made them live in forests for thirteen years.

When the Pandavas came back after living in the forests for thirteen years, they asked Duryodhana to return their share of the kingdom. Duryodhana refused to give them anything. The elders tried to persuade Duryodhana but he did not agree.

Lord Krishna lived at Dwaraka. He was related to the Kauravas and the Pandavas. He was also a friend of Arjuna. Lord Krishna asked Duryodhana to give the Pandavas their share of the kingdom but he did not agree.

At last there was a big battle between the Kauravas and the Pandavas. This battle was fought on the battle-field of Kurukshetra. Now Kurukshetra is in Haryana. This battle is known



as the battle of 'Mahabharata'. Many kings and brave warriors took part in it. Krishna was on the side of the Pandavas.

Arjuna hesitated to fight against his cousins. Krishna encouraged Arjuna to fight for the just cause. Krishna's teachings to Arjuna are known as *Geeta*. It is a holy book of the Hindus. Lord Krishna is worshipped as god.

The great battle of the Mahabharata continued for eighteen days. Lakhs of people were killed and injured. At last the Pandavas won the battle and got back their kingdom.

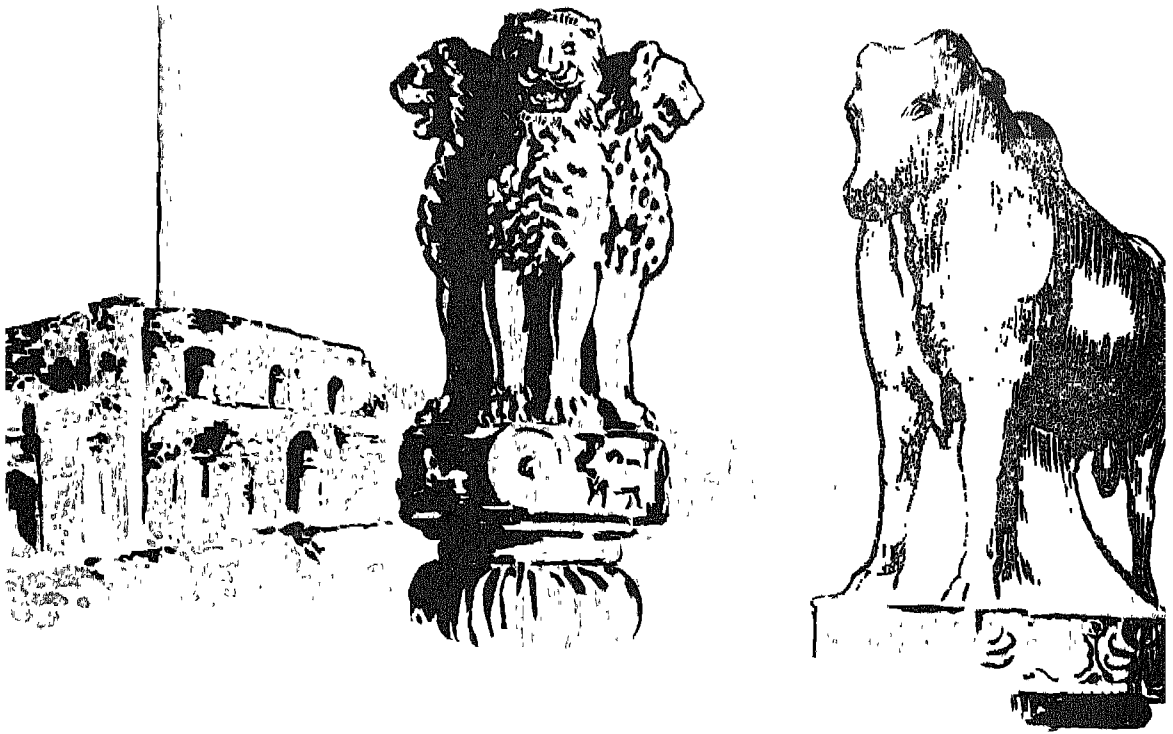
The story of the Mahabharata was first written by Veda Vyas in Sanskrit. It is a holy book of the Hindus.

Answer these questions

1. Who were the Kauravas and the Pandavas?
2. How did Arjun win Draupadi in Swayamvara?
3. Why was the battle of the Mahabharata fought?
4. Why did Krishna take the side of the Pandavas in the battle of the Mahabharata?
5. Who won the battle of the Mahabharata?
6. Who wrote the Mahabharata?

Things to do

1. Read the whole story of the Mahabharata from a book in your library.
2. Dramatize an interesting event of this story.



22. Ashoka

MORE THAN two thousand years ago there took place a terrible war between two kings. Thousands of people were killed in the Kalinga war and many more were injured and made prisoners. The victorious king was very much moved by the misery of the people. He decided never to fight a battle again. This great king was Ashoka.

Ashoka is one of the most famous kings of ancient India. His capital was Pataliputra. This place is now known as Patna. He had a big kingdom. Almost the whole of India was ruled by him. Kalinga which is now known as Orissa was not under his rule. He decided to conquer it. He attacked Kalinga with a big army.

The king of Kalinga too was a brave warrior. He fought bravely. But Ashoka won the battle and Kalinga became part of his kingdom.

the roads. Several inns were made and wells were dug. Many hospitals were opened for free treatment of old and sick people. Hospitals for animals were also opened.

Ashoka led a simple life. He worked day and night for the good of his people. His officers could go to him at any time. He wanted to make his people happy in every way. He treated them like his own children.

You may like to read some of his teachings which were engraved in the rocks. They are :

We should be honest and speak the truth.

We should be kind to the living beings.

We should serve our parents.

We should serve our elders.

Our conduct towards our fellow-beings should be nice.

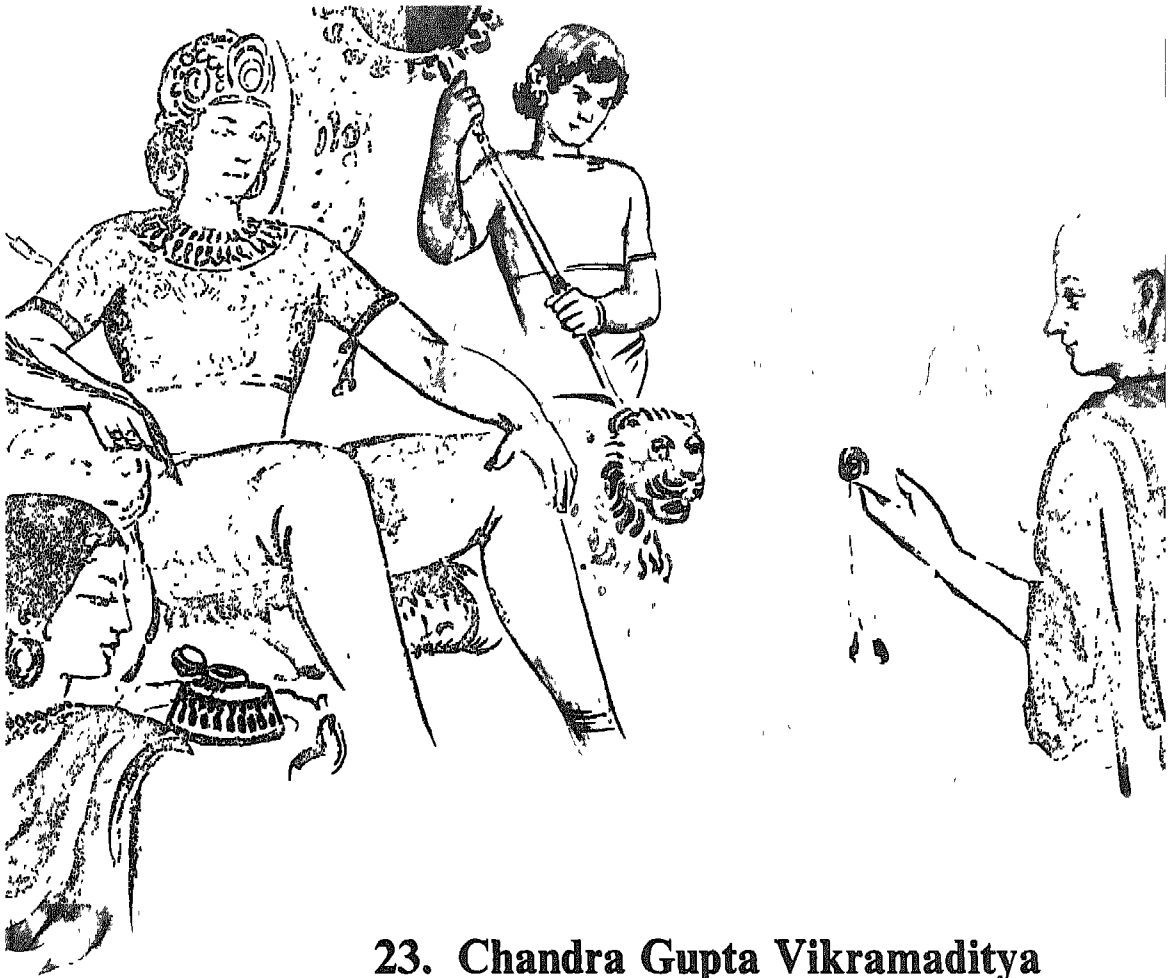
According to Ashoka this is the code of religion, and people were asked to follow it. You perhaps know that we have the Ashoka *chakra* in our national flag and the Lion Capital of Ashoka's Pillar as our national symbol. Even today he is known as 'Ashoka the Great'.

Answer these questions

1. Why did Ashoka attack Kalinga?
2. How did this battle affect Ashoka?
3. What did Ashoka do to spread the teachings of Buddha?
4. What did Ashoka do for the good of his people?
5. Why is Ashoka called the Great?

Things to do

1. Collect the stamp and pictures relating to the many things built by Ashoka. Paste them in your album.
2. Request your teacher to tell you about the Sarnath Lion Capital of Ashoka.



23. Chandra Gupta Vikramaditya

IN THE last story you read that Ashoka spread the teachings of Buddha in India and other countries. Later on many Buddhist monks from India went to Ceylon, Burma, China and Japan. Many travellers from other countries also came to India for pilgrimage and to learn about Buddhism. About sixteen hundred years ago a brave and just king ruled our country. This king was Chandra Gupta Vikramaditya. It is said that he used to go out in disguise to know about the condition of his people. He tried his best to make them happy. Stories about his bravery and justice are told even today.

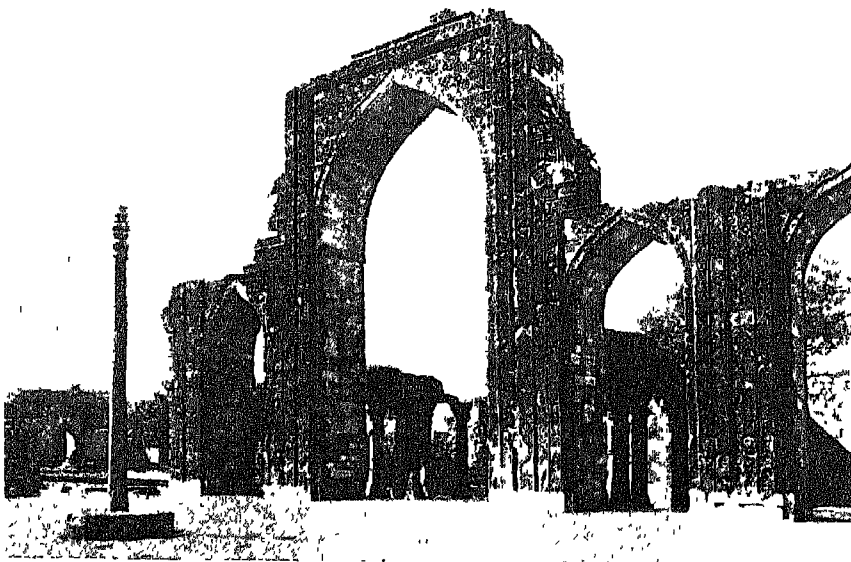
Chandra Gupta fought against the foreign rulers who ruled in the western part of India. They were known as Shaka rulers.

By defeating the Shaka rulers Chandra Gupta freed a large part of India from their rule. After this victory he took the title of 'Vikramaditya'.

Vikramaditya was a learned man and he respected men of learning. It is said that he had in his court the famous scholars of his time. These were known as the nine gems of his court. The great Sanskrit poet Kalidas was one of them. He wrote many books. Shakuntala and Meghdoot are his two well-known books.

During the times of this king a Chinese traveller Fa-Hien came to India. He stayed in India for many years and travelled widely in the country. He has written much about the life of the people of India in those days. Fa-Hien writes that there was peace in the country. People were happy. They were truthful and honest. There were very few thefts. People were free to follow any religion.

People went to far off places on horses, or in bullock-carts and boats for trade. Temples and Buddhist Vihars were built at many places all over the country. Roads were good and there were rest houses for the travellers on these roads. Food and medicines were given free in the hospitals. The king tried his best to make his people happy.



Iron pillar near Mehrauli

Vikramaditya had two capitals, Patliputra (Patna) and Ujjaini (Ujjain). Both these places had beautiful temples and palaces. The temples built during his time were very beautiful. It is said that the iron pillar near Mehrauli in Delhi belongs to the period of Vikramaditya. This pillar is made by mixing several metals. Hundreds of years have passed but this pillar has not rusted. The country progressed in many directions at this time.

Vikramaditya like Ashoka was a great king of our country.

Answer these questions

1. Who was Fa-Hien? Why did he come to India?
2. What did Fa-Hien say about the life of the people in those times?
3. How did Vikramaditya find out the condition of his people?
4. Write (A) against the statements which apply to Ashoka and (C) against those which apply to Chandra Gupta Vikramaditya:
 - () He spread teachings of Buddha.
 - () He defeated the Shakas.
 - () He fought the Kalinga Battle.
 - () Fa-Hien came to India during his time.

Things to do

1. If you pay a visit to Delhi, go and see the iron pillar near Mehrauli and collect more information about it.
2. Request your teacher to tell you the story of the throne of Vikramaditya?



24. Harsha

ONCE A big fair was held at Prayag. The river Ganga and the river Yamuna meet here. A big crowd of people collected at the fair. These people had come from all parts of the country. A large number of tents and huts were fixed for them. In the fair prayers were said at some places and religious discourses were held at others. Processions were taken out. The whole place was full of activity.

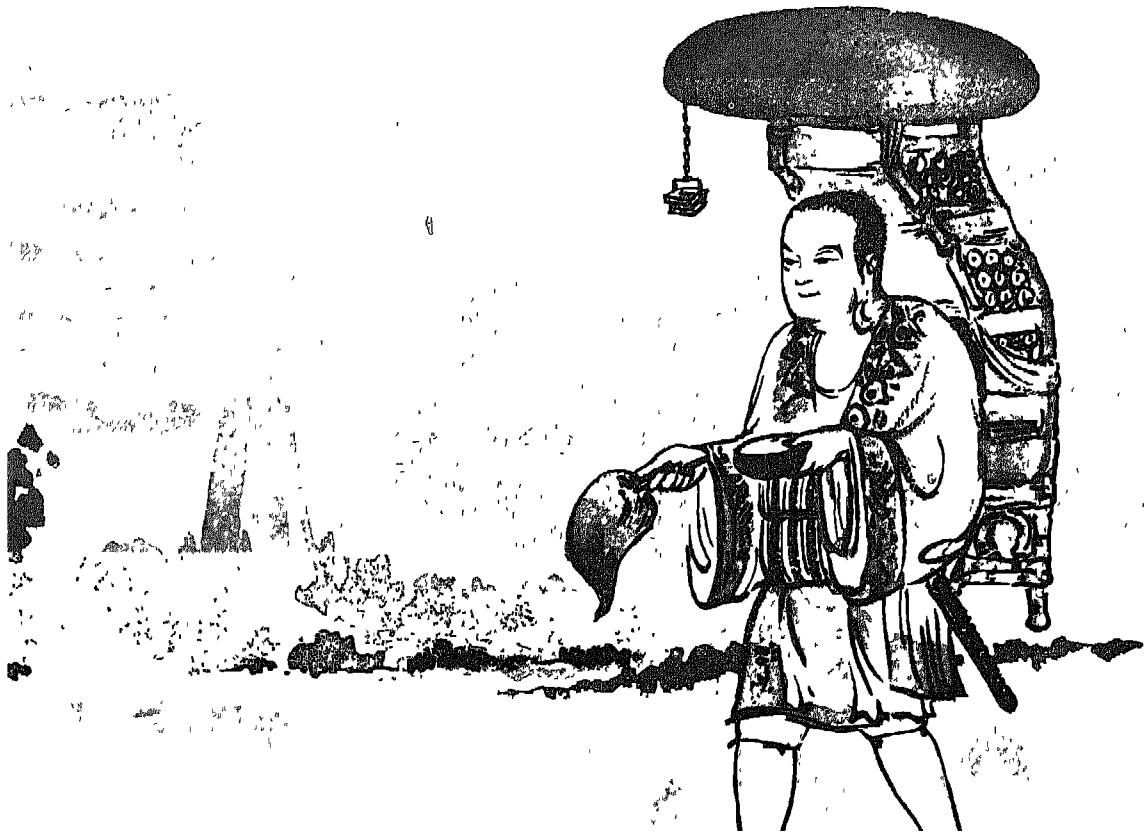
A king came to this fair. He gave alms to the poor and the *sadhus*. The fair continued for many days. The king gave alms every day. He gave away every thing he had in his treasury. He distributed all his gold, silver and jewels. At the end he gave away even the clothes he was wearing. He took some old clothes from his sister to cover his body. He felt very happy and went inside his tent. A Chinese Buddhist monk was talking

to him and went with him into the tent. The monk was Hiuen-Tsang and the generous king was Harsha. Hiuen-Tsang came to India to visit the holy places and to know more about Buddhism.

Harsha used to attend this fair once in every five years. Every time he gave alms to the poor and the *sadhus* belonging to all religions.

Harsha ruled over India nearly thirteen hundred years ago. He was very young when he became the king. He was very brave and courageous and had a big army of elephants, horses and soldiers. Within a very short time he conquered many small kingdoms. The king of Kamrup (Assam) also became his friend. Harsha was the master of almost the whole of Northern India.

Harsha wanted to conquer other parts of India also. At this time another powerful king ruled in the south of India.



His name was Pulakesin II. He had fought and won many battles. Harsha wanted to conquer his territory but could not do so.

Harsha was also a good king. He did many things to make his people happy and prosperous. He used to travel round his whole kingdom to see the condition of his people. He used to listen to the complaints of the poor and try to remove their difficulties.

A book written by Hiuen-Tsang, the Chinese traveller, tells us many things about Harsha's rule. At one place he writes : 'Kanauj, the capital city of Harsha's kingdom is situated on the bank of the river Ganga. This is a beautiful city. There are many beautiful gardens and ponds. Things brought from far off places are sold here. No one in Kanauj is poor. Some people are very rich. The rich people wear clothes made of silk. They lead an easy life. People are fond of art and education.'

Harsha was a very learned man. He was a good writer. The dramas written by him are read even today. He had many good poets in his court. Banabhatta was a famous poet of his times. Two of his books Kadambari and Harsha Charita tell us many interesting things about those times. The king Harsha used to sign like this :



which means 'signed by my own hand—Maharajadhiraj Shri Harsha'.

Harsha was a good administrator. He was one of the great kings of our country.

Answer these questions

1. Where did Harsha rule? What was the capital of his kingdom?
2. Who was Hiuen-Tsang? Why did he come to India? What has he written about the life of the people of those days?
3. Who was Pulakesin II? Why did Harsha attack him?
4. Against each of the events give below write the name of the king in whose time it took place.

- | | |
|-------|--|
| _____ | He gave alms to the poor at the fair held at Prayag. |
| _____ | Fa-Hien came to India, during his reign. |
| _____ | The battle with Pulakesin II took place. |
| _____ | Sanchi <i>Stupa</i> was constructed by him. |
| _____ | Hiuen-Tsang came to India during his reign. |
| _____ | He fought a battle with the Shakas. |

Things to do

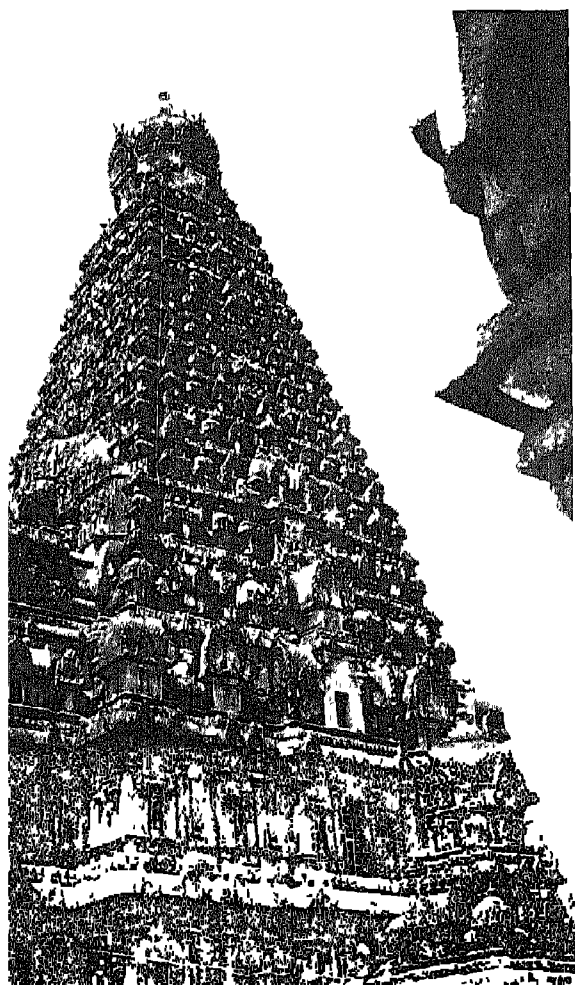
1. Dramatize the incident of Harsha giving alms during the fair held at Prayag.
2. Request your teacher to tell you more about Hiuen-Tsang's travels in India.

25. Rajendra Chola

LOOK AT the picture below. This is the famous temple of Thanjavur. It has the well known statue of *Nataraja*. This temple was built nearly one thousand years ago by a famous king of South India. His name was Rajaraja Chola. Rajaraja Chola was the father of Rajendra Chola. Thanjavur was the Capital of his kingdom. This place is now a part of Madras State.

Rajendra Chola used to take part in the administration of his father's kingdom even when he was a young boy. Before

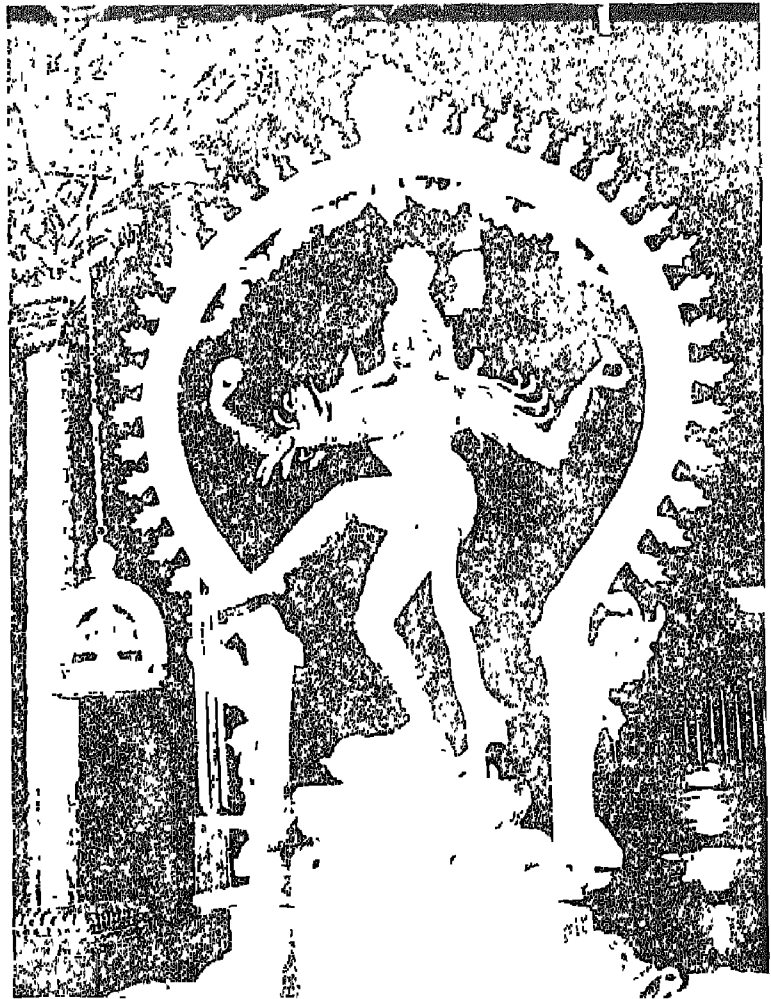
The Thanjavur Temple



he became the king, he had fought many battles. He was a brave warrior. After becoming the king, he decided to extend his kingdom. He formed a big army. His army consisted of elephants, horses and soldiers. With the help of this army he won many battles.

Slowly he brought a large part of South India under his control. He attacked Ceylon and conquered it. After some time he attacked Bengal. His army went to the River Ganga by defeating several kings on the way. After this victory he took the title of *Gangaikonda*

Nataraja



which means the conqueror of the Ganga. In memory of this great victory he built a town near Tiruchchirapalli. He named this place 'Gangaikonda Cholapuram'. He made it his capital. The ruins of this city can be seen even today in Madras State.

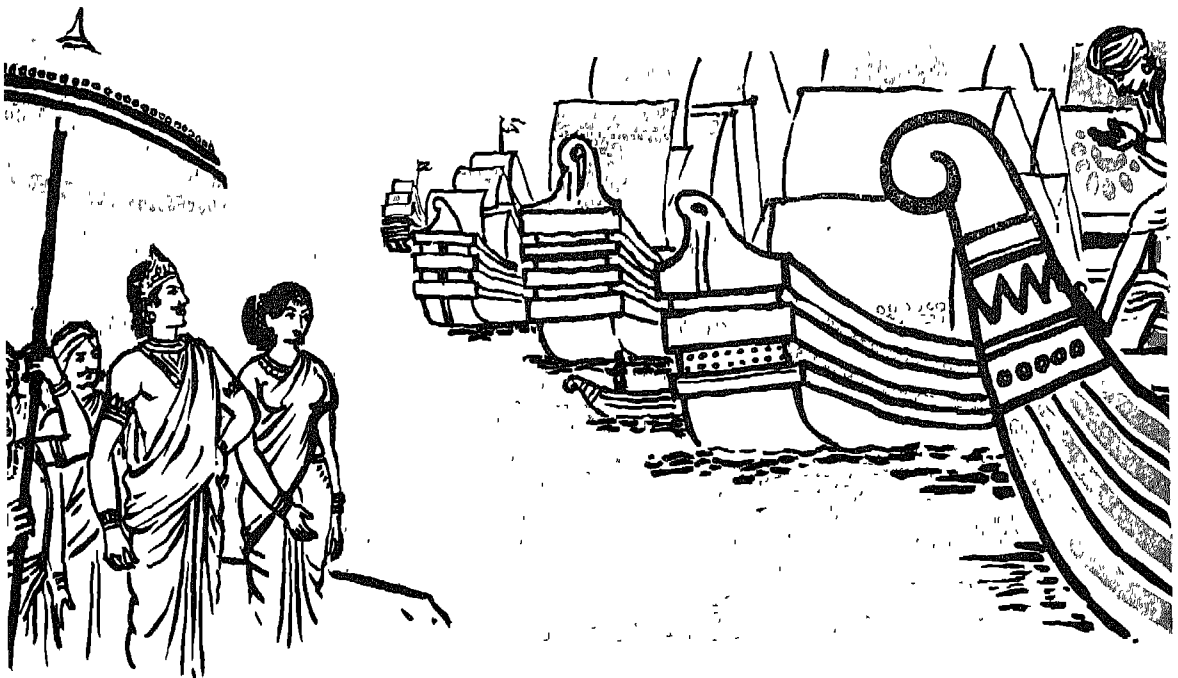
His kingdom had a long sea coast. He had a very strong navy. His ships could go to far off places in the Bay of Bengal. For the purposes of trade his ships moved in the Indian Ocean also. His merchants carried goods to the neighbouring countries. The traders from India went to countries like Malaya, Sumatra, Java, Bali and China. Many of them settled in those places.

These contacts with other countries were very useful for our country. Our art and religion influenced the life of people in the neighbouring countries. Even today we see many temples in these countries with pictures showing scenes from Ramayana and Mahabharata on their walls.

Rajendra Chola was an able ruler. He had divided his kingdom into small parts. Every village and town had a committee to look after it. This committee was elected by the people like our present Panchayats. The king also had ministers to help him.

Many good books in Tamil and Sanskrit were written during this period. He had many writers, poets and artists in his court. He was fond of building temples and big palaces. His new capital at Gangaikonda Cholapuram had big palaces and a man-made lake. This lake had walls made of stone. The length of these walls was fifteen miles.

Rajendra Chola was a great conqueror and a powerful king. He conquered a large portion of South India, parts of North India and some islands. His friendly contacts with other countries influenced their religion, art, customs and manners.



Answer these questions

1. In which part of India did Rajendra Chola rule?
2. What is the meaning of *Gangaikonda*? Why did he take this title?
3. Why do we say that Rajendra Chola was a great conqueror?
4. How did he rule the country?

Things to do

Collect the pictures of various temples built by the Chola kings and paste them in your album.

Some Important Information

Area of India	3,276,141 sq. km.
Capital of India	Delhi
Official language of the Union	Hindi

States of India

<i>S. No.</i>	<i>Name of the State</i>	<i>State Capital</i>	<i>Area of the state in sq. km</i>	<i>Population of the state</i>	<i>Principal language</i>
A. States					
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad	2,75,281	3,59,83,447	Telugu
2.	Assam	Shillong	2,03,389	1,22,09,330	Assamese and Bengali
3.	Bihar	Patna	1,74,038	4,64,55,610	Hindi
4.	Gujarat	Ahmedabad	1,87,115	2,06,33,350	Gujarati
5.	Haryana	Chandigarh			Hindi
6.	Jammu & Kashmir	Srinagar	2,22,800	35,60,976	Kashmiri, Dogri and Urdu
7.	Kerala	Trivandrum	38,855	1,69,03,715	Malayalam
8.	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal	4,43,452	3,23,72,408	Hindi
9.	Madras	Madras	1,30,357	3,36,86,953	Tamil
10.	Maharashtra	Bombay	3,07,477	3,95,53,718	Marathi
11.	Mysore	Bangalore	1,92,204	2,35,86,772	Kannada
12.	Nagaland	Kohima	16,488	3,69,200	
13.	Orissa	Bhubaneswar	1,55,825	1,75,48,846	Oriya

<i>S. No.</i>	<i>Name of the State</i>	<i>State Capital</i>	<i>Area of the state in sq km.</i>	<i>Population of the state</i>	<i>Principal language</i>
14	Punjab	Chandigarh			Punjabi
15	Rajasthan	Jaipur	3,42,274	2,01,55,602	Rajasthani and Hindi
16	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow	2,94,364	7,37,46,401	Hindi
17.	West Bengal	Calcutta	87,617	3,49,26,279	Bengali

B. Union Territories

1	Andaman and Nicobar Island	Port Blair	8,327	63,548	
2	Chandigarh	Chandigarh			
3	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	Silvassa	489	57,963	
4	Delhi	Delhi	1,484	26,58,612	Hindi, Urdu and Punjabi
5.	Goa, Daman & Diu	Panaji	3,693	6,26,667	
6.	Himachal Pradesh	Simla			Hindi and Pahari
7.	Laccadive, Minicoy & Amindivi Islands	Kavarathi	29	14,108	
8	Manipur	Imphal	22,347	7,80,037	
9	Pondicherry	Pondicherry	479	3,69,079	Tamil and French
10	Tripura	Agartala	10,453	11,42,005	